

SOUVENIR SUNSHINE GEORGIES POSTER INSIDE!

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# GOAL! WEEKLY

Season 2: Issue 26  
Monday 07 Aug '06: \$3

Supporting all colours and reporting in black and white.



**A-LEAGUE  
PRE-SEASON  
CUP**  
Page 15-18

## VODAFONE CUP LATEST RESULTS

Kingston 1 - 3 Eagles  
Magic 1 - 2 Zebras  
South 0 - 1 Cannons  
Georgies 1 - 1 Pines  
Knights 0 - 2 Gully  
Lions 2 - 1 Blues

\*Royals v Bergers \*Playing tonight

**STATE  
LEAGUE  
ACTION  
INSIDE**

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# BOUTSI CANNON SINKS SOUTH!

OAKLEIGH SECURES MINOR PREMIERSHIP IN A BRUISING ENCOUNTER

Photo by John Punshon



When it's your time...

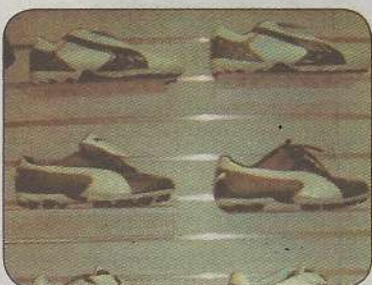
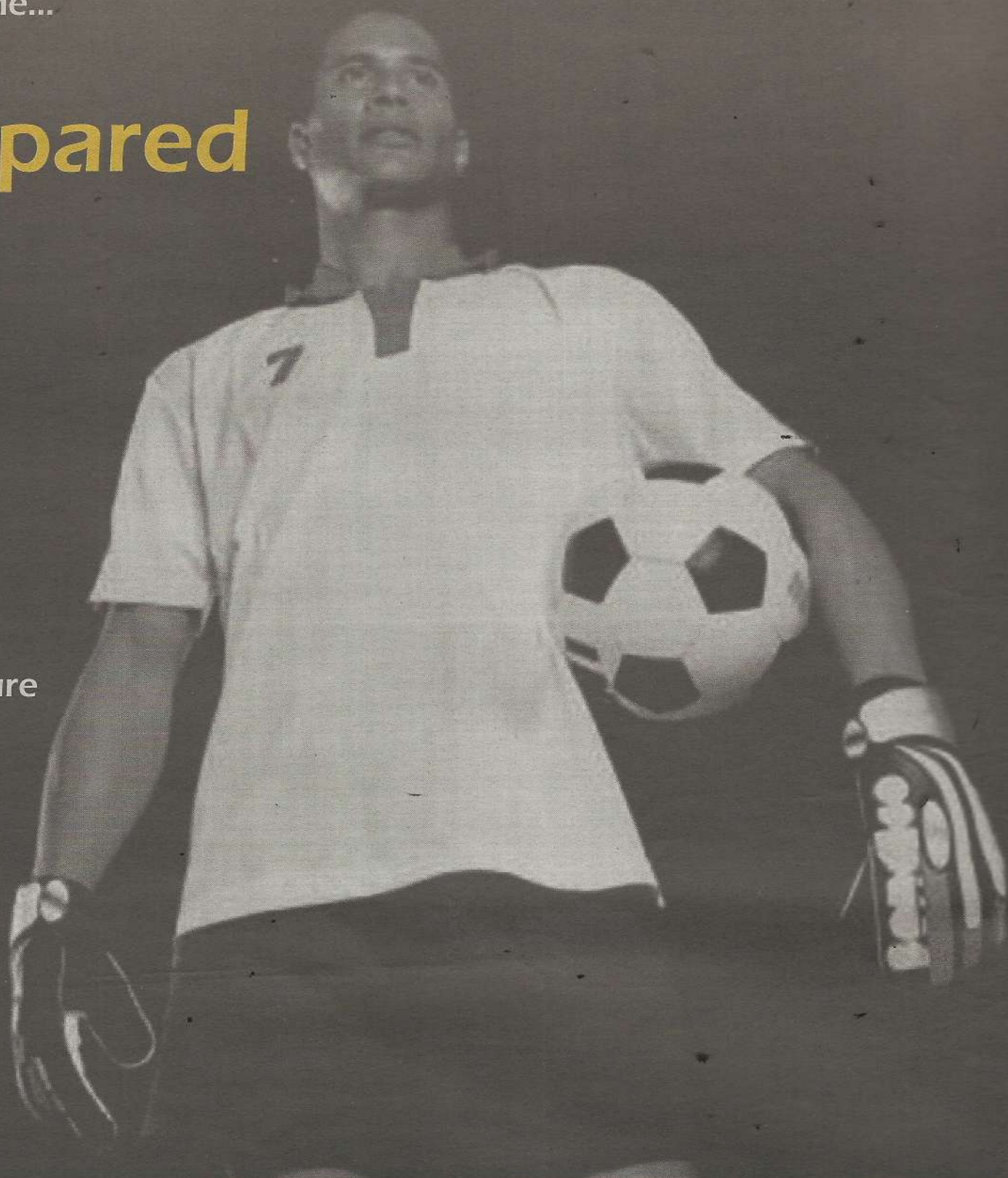
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# Some Like It Hot!

It's obvious to everyone involved in the Vodafone Cup that crowds are down substantially this year, and "Katsa's" article a fortnight ago about the low attendances in this year's competition highlights the pinch that all clubs are facing.

Last year, thanks to the inclusion of former NSL clubs (Heidelberg United, Melbourne Knights, South Melbourne and Sunshine Georgies) crowd figures in the VPL soared to an increase of over 300%. Nearly eighteen months later, some clubs have felt the strain as crowd figures that were budgeted for in 2006, have for one reason or another, fallen well short of the mark. Projections made at the start of the season by committees were not unrealistic, but unfortunately the turnstiles just haven't clicked as much as some were anticipating.

One obvious solution, to reverse this trend and bring many other advantages to the table, is to play the Premier League during the summer months and in line with the A-League competition.

Crowds during the start of the season are up to ten times higher than the later winter months. An obvious reason is the weather. But, the biggest factor is junior soccer, not AFL. As soon as the junior season kicks off, crowds dip substantially. Parents with children playing the sport simply cannot get to a VPL game.

Over the last few weeks however, you've probably noticed that a few VPL fixtures have suffered due to the weather. Some games have been abandoned. Others that got the go ahead after a referee's pitch inspection, saw the state of play decline in trying conditions whilst the risk of injury increased due to the state of the sur-

"A switch to summer would allow you to swap your raincoat and flu tablets, for a pair of thongs and a tube of zinc."

face. A move to summer soccer would make for better playing conditions.

With the advantage of daylight savings, matches could even kick-off later in the day when temperatures have cooled and thus become more favourable to play in.

Unfortunately, most grounds are not conducive to the harsh realities of Melbourne's winter climate. Oakleigh's crowds at the start of the season are much higher than the crowds they are getting now, which is not a good sign considering they are top of the table.

Let's face it, our facilities cannot compete with the luxurious confines of the indoor Telstra Dom. And when it rains, how many clubs have the adequate shelter from the elements? Apart from the main stadiums in the competition, most facilities are unable to provide comfortably from a Melbourne winter. A switch to summer would allow you to swap your raincoat and flu tablets,



for a pair of thongs and a tube of zinc.

Furthermore, with the Melbourne Victory only playing in town every second week, either on a Friday, Saturday, Sunday, or even on a Monday, this type of fixturing leaves plenty of room for the VPL to co-exist with the Victory.

The scenario could also be used to benefit the A-league club, as currently there is no second grade or youth team competition in existence. Starting a second tier competition is costly, so the A-league should consider the AFL-VFL club affiliation arrangement, as seen in Aussie Rules. But instead of certain clubs being affiliated with each other, individual Melbourne Victory

"...it would also put a halt to the better Vodafone Cup players embarking on trials with bigger clubs just as their respective club is about to prepare for the all important run-in to the end of the season."

players could be affiliated with certain VPL clubs, hence getting the necessary game time when not selected.

If the FFA and the respective state bodies combined this vision it could also open up possibilities for a meaningful pre-season competition and a truly Australian Cup (Australia's version of the FA Cup). Most people would agree that the A league season is too short. Therefore, why not have rounds of the Australian Cup before the start of the A-League and VPL season? Eg, Australian A-league teams, along with the top six of the Victorian & NSW premier league teams, and also with the champions from WA and SA.

To reduce costs, the first few rounds could be state based.

Finally, with the Vodafone Cup running in sync with the A-League, as well as the rest of the world's football calendar, it would also put a halt to the better Vodafone Cup players embarking on trials with bigger clubs just as their respective club is about to prepare for the all important run-in to the end of the season. Over recent weeks we've seen Heidelberg's Yusef Yusef try his luck at PAOK in Greece, Essendon's Steve Fitzsimmons go on trial to Queensland Roar, Fawkner/Whittlesea's Carl Recchia and Ricky Chillico venture over to the Italian Serie B, just to name a few. Although one would wish any player the best of luck at earning a contract at a higher level, a change of football season would eliminate a clash of wills between players, agents and clubs at such a critical time of the season.

As long as there is a mid-season break to coincide with the Christmas holidays, the positives of a summer league definitely outweigh the negatives.

The national body took a radical step, now it's time for the states to follow suit.

By Bruno Zovko

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# VODAFONE CUP

## DETAILS



### ROUND 24 SCOREBOARD

#### KINGSTON CITY 1 - 3 RICHMOND EAGLES

Friday 4th August The Grange Reserve Crowd: 600

Goals: D.Visevic (RE) 10th & 36th, G.Hockless (RE) 26th, M.Curcija (KC) 57th.  
Yellow cards: D.Zilic (KC) 25th, C.Konstans (KC) 44th, P.Koutsoupas (KC) 58th.  
Red cards: None.

Kingston: D.Zilic, A.Chiaietta, C.Anthopoulos, C.Konstans, J.Latinopoulos, M.Stergiopoulos, A.Kiratzoglou, J.Di Iorio, P.Kotsopoulos (N.Stamatiou 73rd), D.Tsiaras, M.Curcija.

Eagles: N.Crossley, S.Webster, S.Burton, J.Baskerville (T.Celentano 73rd), S.McCluskey, S.Sivic, N.Bahnsen, D.Visevic, G.Hockless (X.Sulemani 82nd), F.O'Colmain, V.Korcarevski (B.Beni 77th).

#### ALTONA MAGIC 1 - 2 BULLEEN ZEBRAS

Saturday 5th August Paisley Park Crowd: 600

Goals: B.Harbinson (BZ) 15th, S.Martin 18th, S.Becvinovski (AM) 33rd pen.  
Yellow cards: T.Kovar (BZ) 33rd, S.Bell (BZ) 86th, B.Jevdevic (AM) 89th, I.Arsovski (AM) 90th.  
Red cards: None.

Magic: B.Jevdevic, S.Mrkela, L.Osman, D.Mladenovic, K.Delev (A.Sherifovski 68th), S.Becvinovski, T.Razov, I.Arsovski, P.Cergovski (S.Zilic 45th), I.Razov (I.Kolevski 59th), D.Vasilevski.

Zebbras: T.Kovar, R.Antoniadis, D.Greco, A.Drakos, B.Aarbinson, B.Harbinson, D.Guglielmi, S.Bell, S.Martin, A.Fedijevic (M.Mazzini 77th), R.Diacio (D.Piemonti 77th), H.Armenian.

#### PRESTON LIONS 2 - 1 FAWKNER/WHITTLESEA

Sunday 6th August BT Connor Reserve Crowd: 1500

Goals: S.Pace (PL) 30th, T.Sterjovski (FW) 47th, P.Siveski (PL) 55th.  
Yellow cards: P.Dimovski (FW) 38th, G.Lombardo (FW) 72nd, T.Devrimol (PL) 90th.  
Red cards: None.

Lions: G.Gruevski, L.Anastasiou, T.Devrimol, M.Gasparis (Y.Said 90th), B.Gorgioski, J.Sapazovski (N.Lazarevski 63rd), A.Magnacca, S.Pace, P.Siveski, E.Karahan, Z.Younan.

Blues: S.Tilovski, P.Dimovski, E.Awad, M.Bossuski, M.Tsiorlas, J.Siljonoski, T.Sterjovski, D.Madarovski, J.Puncipato (A.Colosimo 75th), G.Lombardo, J.Markovski.

#### SUNSHINE GEORGIES 1 - 1 FRANKSTON PINES

Sunday 6th August Chaplin Reserve Crowd: 1000

Goals: C.Metcalf (FP) 21st, T.Watson (SG) 45th.  
Yellow cards: M.John (SG) 36th, C.McFarlane (FP) 36th, V.Trpceviski (SG) 36th, D.Rocco (SG) 85th.  
Red cards: None.

Georgies: M.John, I.Erdogan, C.Azzopardi, D.Rocco, T.Watson (D.Delic 70th), V.Trpceviski (E.Soaes 64th), A.Tsirtsakis, M.Draycott, E.Muscat, B.Gilmour, F.Richards.

Pines: K.McIvor, J.Cumming, M.Anderson, T.Malcolm, C.Metcalf, B.Oucin, C.Jones, B.Cullen, N.Waite, C.Leopold, C.McFarlane (D.D'Angelo 60th).

#### MELBOURNE KNIGHTS 0 - 2 GREEN GULLY

Sunday 6th August Knights Stadium Crowd: 500

Goals: S.Oksuz (GG) 66th, L.Lapsansky (GG) 79th.  
Yellow cards: C.Elvin (MK) 30th, D.Fak (GG) 30th, L.Lapsansky (GG) 45th, B.Vasallo (GG) 70th, A.Zilic (MK) 71st.  
Red cards: None.

Knights: A.Cagalj, N.Antic, G.Talevski, B.Chesson, D.Matkovic, C.Elvin, A.Muzaferovic (R.Filipovic 79th), A.Zilic, M.Ladnjak, M.Dugandzic, L.Cannell (B.Radman 57th).

Gully: A.Loncaric, P.Riccobene, D.Fak, Z.Markovski, D.Cain, B.Vassallo, P.Hader (S.Oksuz 53rd), R.Ollerton, D.Nastevski, L.Lapsansky (A.Marh 82nd), R.Cardozo (M.Sanders 65th).

#### SOUTH MELBOURNE 0 - 1 OAKLEIGH CANNONS

Sunday 6th August Bob Jane Stadium Crowd: 2000

Goals: C.Boutsianis (OC) 71st.  
Yellow cards: G.Goutzioulis (OC) 19th, S.Poutakidis (OC) 45th, A.Pelikan (OC) 46th, F.Rosman (OC) 62nd, B.Damianos (OC) 88th.  
Red cards: A.Kovacic (OC) 19th.

South: D.Anastasiadis, S.De Vito (G.Di Nittis 74th), C.Blatzis, V.Natsioulas (A.Bourakis 19th), A.Oliveira, D.Djubic, R.Tavsanicioglu, F.De Moraes, T.Banser, S.MacNicol, A.Naglieri.

Cannons: S.Webster, F.Rosman, A.Ewin, A.Kovacic, B.Damianos, A.Pelikan (C.Boutsianis 70th), J.Nilo (R.Kumar 84th), E.Masi, S.Webster, S.Poutakidis, G.Goutzioulis.

#### PLAYING TONIGHT

ESSENDON ROYALS.....HEIDELBERG UNITED

Goals:.....

Yellow cards:.....

Red cards:.....

### VODAFONE CUP TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Oakleigh Cannons	23	16	5	2	45	21	53
South Melbourne	23	11	5	7	39	24	38
Altona Magic	23	10	7	6	26	20	37
Heidelberg Utd	22	10	5	7	38	32	35
Kingston City	23	10	5	8	33	32	35
Green Gully	23	8	7	8	39	36	31
Richmond Eagles	23	8	7	8	36	35	31
Preston Lions	23	8	7	8	39	40	41
Bulleen Zebras	23	8	5	10	25	32	29
Melbourne Knights	23	7	6	10	28	36	27
Fawkner-Whittlesea	23	8	1	14	35	46	25
Essendon Royals	22	6	6	10	22	28	24
Sunshine Georgies	23	6	6	11	27	34	24
Frankston Pines	23	6	4	13	21	37	22



Oakleigh's Antun Kovacevic raises his hand in guilt as the referee is about to pull the red card for the challenge on Gianni De Nitis **Photo by John Punshon**

### VODAFONE CUP UNDER-21s

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Green Gully Cavaliers SC	23	15	4	4	51	21	49
Richmond SC	23	13	4	6	48	30	43
Preston Lions SC	21	12	3	6	37	32	39
South Melbourne FC	21	11	4	6	46	32	37
Sunshine Georgies SC	22	10	4	8	54	31	34
Fawkner-Whittlesea SC	20	9	6	5	37	25	33
Heidelberg United SC	21	9	5	7	33	32	32
Oakleigh Cannons SC	22	8	6	8	42	36	30
Bulleen Zebras SC	20	9	3	8	29	31	30
Essendon Royals SC	21	8	4	9	27	34	28
Altona Magic SC	23	8	1	14	36	50	25
Melbourne Knights SC	23	7	1	15	27	53	22
Frankston Pines SC	22	6	0	16	32	56	18
Kingston City SC	22	3	3	16	23	59	12

Kingston City 0 - Richmond 3,

Altona Magic 1 - Bulleen Zebras 0,

Sunshine Georgies 3 - Frankston Pines 0,

Melbourne Knights 0 - Green Gully Cav 1,

Preston Lions - Fawkner-Whittlesea ,

South Melbourne - Oakleigh Cannons ,

Essendon Royals - Heidelberg United

### VODAFONE CUP ROUND 25

KINGSTON CITY

v

PRESTON LIONS

Friday 11th August  
The Grange Reserve,  
Kingston Mel: 79 F8  
KO 8.15pm

RICHMOND EAGLES

v

OAKLEIGH CANNONS

Friday 11th August  
Kevin Bartlett Reserve,  
Richmond Mel: 59 A1  
KO 8.30pm

FRANKSTON PINES

v

ALTONA MAGIC

Saturday 12th August  
Monterey Reserve  
Frankston Mel: 99 K8  
KO 3pm

FAWKNER/WHITTLESEA

v

ESSENDON ROYALS

Sunday 13th August  
CB Smith Reserve,  
Fawkner Mel: 17 J2  
KO 3pm

GREEN GULLY

v

SUNSHINE GEORGIES

Sunday 13th August  
Green Gully Reserve,  
Keilor Mel: 14 E8  
KO 5pm

HEIDELBERG UNITED

v

MELBOURNE KNIGHTS

Sunday 13th July  
Olympic Village,  
Heidelberg Mel: 19 D11  
KO 6pm

BULLEEN ZEBRAS

v

SOUTH MELBOURNE

Monday 14th August  
Veneto Social Club,  
Bulleen Mel: 32 D9  
KO 8.15pm

### LEADING GOALSCORERS

Michael Curcija  
Kingston City FC 15

Sash Becvinovski  
Altona Magic FC 13

James Robinson  
Richmond Eagles FC 12

Esala Masi  
Oakleigh Cannons FC 12

Anthony Magnacca  
Preston Lions 11





# VODAFONE CUP

*Round 23*


## BOUTSI CANNON SINKS SOUTH

**OAKLEIGH SECURES MINOR PREMIERSHIP**

**South Melbourne 0 - 1 Oakleigh Cannons**


### What the Coaches Said...

**John Anastasiadis**  
Coach, South Melbourne:

Obviously we feel very disappointed. We felt we did enough to get the result but it just didn't turn out for us today. I suppose that's the difference between the two sides, they had the quality to take their chance. Congratulations to the Cannons for securing the minor premiership and we hope now to meet them in the Final.

**Stuart Munro**  
Coach, Oakleigh Cannons:

Obviously it was a pretty fiery game and from our point of view it was important that we got the result to win the minor premiership. It was very difficult game for us and after we had a man sent off early on South Melbourne made it very difficult for us. All credit to the players who stood up for it in the second half, even though we rode our luck at times, it was a good victory for the club. We know that the finals is a completely different phase and it doesn't matter what you do in the "home and away". Although I'm a bit old fashion and I think the minor premiership is what it's all about, but here in Australia you've got to win that final series and that's the direction we'll be heading and we'll try and do the best we can.

Con Boutsianis's expertise with the dead ball gave 10 man Oakleigh all three points, and the minor premiership in their 1-0 victory over South Melbourne at Bob Jane Stadium on Sunday evening. South welcomed the experienced Con Blatsis into the starting line up, allowing Tansel Baser to play on the left side of a three man midfield. South coach John Anastasiadis signalled his intention to attack the league leaders by starting with three up front.

Oakleigh looked threatening early on when midfielder Anthony Pelikan struck a long range shot to bring out a diving save from South keeper Dean Anastasiadis. The keeper saved again minutes later when he stopped Juan Nilo's smart backheel from giving the visitors a 1-0 lead.

In an open first half, South's Tansel Baser brought the home crowd to their feet when his 30 metre drive rattled the upright.

A major turning point in the match occurred when Cannons right back Anton Kovacic received a straight red in the 18th minute after his two footed challenge left South forward Bill Natsioulis writhing on the ground and unable to take further part in the game sparking a brief melee. South coach

John Anastasiadis stepped in to pull Cannon's George Goutzioulis out of the fray.

When the dust settled, Cannons Coach Stuart Munro pulled midfielder Scott Webster into defense leaving just the three in the middle allowing an even more open game.

South pressed forward looking to capitalize on their advantage.

Baser's volley from a DeMoraes corner in the 23rd minute forced a good save from Cannons keeper Stuart Webster whilst Antonio Naglieri's volley on the end of a flowing string of passes, forced another smart Webster save.

Oakleigh displayed their potency on the counter when Esala Masi's pace left Blatsis in his wake before setting up Pelikan for a blistering 25 metre drive which sailed past the upright.

Another melee occurred just before the break when former South player, George Goutzioulis flung out his arm and connected with current South favourite DeMoraes. The incensed South fans demanded another card, but the referee and his linesman appeared to miss the incident.

The Cannons began the second half in a more conservative frame of mind, defending deep and al-

lowing South possession in their defensive half. After a tight opening quarter of an hour, Nick Curtis's cross found Baser's head which went wide of the post.

The game turned sensationally in the 69th minute with a perfectly timed Cannons substitution. Blatsis was penalized for a foul on Pelikan 25 metres out, and midfielder Bill Damianos set himself to take the kick. On comes Con Boutsianis for Pelikan and Damianos defers to the dead ball expert. Anastasiadis could only stand and watch in admiration as the perfect shot sailed inside his right post.

South stormed forward in the next twenty minutes creating a handful of opportunities which they couldn't take advantage of. Baser, Blatsis and Oliveira went close for South but desperate Oakleigh defense and Stuart Webster heroics in goal kept South at bay and ensured the minor premiership would go east in season 2006.

By George Stogiannou  
Photos by John Punshon

**Man of the Match**  
**Stuart Webster**  
(Cannons)



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# VODAFONE CUP

*Round 23*


## CAVALIERS LANCE HAPLESS KNIGHTS

GULLY MAKES LATE SURGE INTO FINALS CONTENTION



### Melbourne Knights 0 - 2 Green Gully Cavaliers



The Green Gully Cavaliers continued their good form of late, disposing the Melbourne Knights 2-0 at Somers street on Sunday afternoon. The two second half strikes by the Cavaliers leaves the reigning champs on track for a finals berth, whilst leaving the embattled Melbourne Knights in a dog fight for premier league survival.

The visitors were missing in form striker Joel Nikolic and influential midfielder Andy Vargas thru suspension, whilst the Knights yet again fielded an under strength squad, with only five first team regulars in the starting line-up.

The Knights surprisingly created the first chance in the sixth minute, after a defensive error by the visitors allowed Dario Matkovic to unleash a powerful low drive that was well stopped by Gully's teenage Keeper, Ante Loncaric.

After a slow start, the visitors were slowly gaining the ascendancy, with Ljubo Lapsansky turning back the clock with a stellar display in the midfield. For all their toil, the visitors failed to procure any decent chances in the first half. Just before the half hour mark, Richard Cadroza had penalty decision turned down for a strong challenge he received in the penalty area.

The home side blossomed late in the half, as their pace on the flanks, especially the right flank, unsettled Gully's backline. The youthful Knights on a number of occasions showed their more

experienced opponents a clean pair of heels on the flanks. However for all their penetration and ensuing crosses from the flanks, the home side failed to get sufficient numbers in the box to cause real concern for the Cavaliers.

lacked so desperately in the first half.

By Bruno Zovko  
Photos by Daniel Flis



Gully charged out of the blocks after the break, and can consider themselves quite unlucky not to take the lead early on in the second half. The visitors had a shot cleared off the goal line within ten minutes of the restart, and a minute later Dean Fak rattled the upright with a header from only a couple of metres out.

The visitors took the lead in the 65th minute after a scintillating run by substitute Serkan Okzus pierced the Knights defence. Okzus rounded off his good work with a clinical finish, giving the visitors a well deserved lead. The Cavaliers extended their lead ten minutes later, after substitute Mathew Saunders was adjudged to be infringing upon in the penalty area. Former Knight, Lapsansky calmly slotted the penalty, securing all three points for the visitors.

Ian Dobson's early second half time substitution of Serkan Oksuz proved to be a match winner, as the explosive forward provided the necessary firepower that the reigning champs

#### What the Coaches Said...

Joe Spoljar  
Coach, Melbourne Knights:

It was a classic game of two halves. We dominated in the first half, creating a few chances...but when you don't take your chances you're always under the pump. Green Gully is obviously a good side and when you play teams that have a great deal of experience and depth it tends to be telling in the end.

Ian Dobson  
Coach, Green Gully:

It was another intensive game...both teams needing to win to carry on their existence in the Premier League. It was a very hard game, a hard slog and Melbourne Knights, to their credit, really made a game of it. They really made us work for every kick.

Man of the Match  
Lubo Lapsansky  
(Gully)

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VODAFONE CUP

Round 23



# LIONS KEEP FINALS HUNT ALIVE

BLUES' SEASON SLIPPING AWAY



Preston Lions 2 - 1 Fawknor-Whittlesea Blues



The Preston Lions took all the points against Fawknor/Whittlesea in this Round 23 Vodafone Cup clash at BT Conner Reserve on Sunday. The victory was enough to keep the Lions in touch with the top six and at least assure it Premier league football for next season.

The undermanned Fawknor/Whittlesea side did their best but had to rely on player/coach John Markovski to lead the forward line in this the game. With a limited pool of players to select it was always going to be hard for the visitors to get anything from this game.

The Lions threw everything they had at their visitors straight from the start and totally dominated the first 25 minutes. The Lions really should have been at least three or four nil up at half time rather than just being one goal to the good. Erhan Karahan was a constant thorn in the side down the left hand side and on at least four or five occasions created good scoring chances for his forwards but they were unable to convert. Then on the stroke of the half hour mark the home side found the back of the net when Siveski found himself unmarked at the far post and calmly slotted the ball past stranded Fawknor keeper, Steven Tilovski. It was no more than they deserved as it took their slender lead into the break.

Immediately after the break the visitors seemed to step the pace up and grabbed a surprising

equalizing goal when Tony Sterjovski scored in the 47th minute, he finished of a good move which saw a three man move end with the forward leveling the scores.

Moments later The Blues almost went in front when a Jurica Siljanoski found himself with a one on one chance after a scramble in the penalty box only to see the Preston keeper throw himself at the striker's feet much to the relief of the home fans.

That was as close as it got for the visitors as Preston started to really dominant again as they did earlier in the game, once again they created plenty of goal scoring chances but failed to take any of them until the 55th minute when Siveski pick up the ball just outside the penalty area and struck a super shot that gave Tilovski absolutely no chance. The result keeps the Lions in the finals picture along with Green Gully and Richmond. With the support of their very passionate fans and with a couple of games at home to come they will not be far away come finals time.

By Paul Jefferies

Photos by Daniel Flis

## What the Coaches Said...

Goran Lozanovski  
Coach, Preston Lions:

Great result in the end, especially after our second half performance wasn't the best. We should have scored two or three goals early on, but we didn't, which kept them in the game. In the end it was pretty pleasing even though we made it harder for ourselves. We're just satisfied the result pretty much guaranteed ourselves premier league football for next season.

Serge Costanza  
Secretary, Fawknor-Whittlesea Blues:

I felt we were very unlucky. Preston had the best of the play in the first half and our boys were a little bit undermanned. We improved for the second half and the boys gave their all. We actually scored a goal to equalise at 2-2 but it was disallowed for some reason - we accept that and all I can say is that overall it was a fantastic effort.

Man of the Match  
Erhan Karahan  
(Lions)

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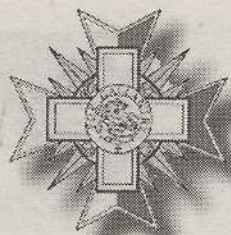
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# VODAFONE CUP

Round 23



## PINES, GEORGIES FACE HARD ROAD AFTER DRAW

GEORGIES LEVEL PINES BUT REMAIN IN RELEGATION DANGER



### Sunshine Georgies 1 - 1 Frankston Pines



#### What the Coaches Said...

**Fab Incantloup**  
Asst Coach, Sunshine Georgies:

I thought we were pretty disappointing and our mind set wasn't as it should have been. We didn't get into the game at all. It was always going to be a tough encounter between the two bottom sides which are desperate for points. But as far as we are concerned we didn't approach the game in the best possible way. We're still in it and anyone can survive. We just need to try and get maximum points from the games that remain.

**Adam Jamieson**  
Coach, Frankston Pines:

It was an even sort of game. It was a pretty much a stalemate after the scores were locked a one apiece. Hopefully results today and results tomorrow night go our way and maybe we're still in with a chance.



The Frankston Pines secured a crucial 1-1 away draw against the Sunshine Georgies in Round 23 of the Vodafone Cup yesterday.

All supporters, players and officials of both clubs arrived at Chaplin Reserve fully knowing the implications of a loss in terms of either team's hopes of avoiding the bottom two spots on the table. In the early going of the game it also seemed that both teams knew the gravity of the situation as both were hesitant in terms of not wanting to lose the game.

The game sprang to life 20 minutes into the game when Trent Waterson shook the tight Pines marking to whizz an angled shot across the Pines goal just narrowly going wide. The Pines then seized the initiative when Georgies central defender Daniel Rocco made a huge error and the Pines striker Cameron Metcalff strolled in and found himself one on one with Martin John. John parried the ball but couldn't pre-

vent the ball from trickling into the net and much to the Pines delight they had the lead.

With a 1-0 lead in hand the Pines dropped men behind the ball and attempted to get to the break with the on goal advantage, which they did a pretty good job, deflecting Sunshine's advances. Sunshine's Fidel Richards and Trent Waterson were not holding back about but it seemed that Sunshine just lacked the eye of the tiger.

However virtually on the stroke of half time with perhaps ten or fifteen seconds before the whistle blew Sunshine pushed forward for one last raid and after a number of crosses and switches of play, Trent Waterson was able to chest the ball, dink it around the keeper and cut it back into the goals to level the scores as referee Perry Muir blew for half time.

Sunshine dominated most of the second half and the Pines were playing on the break but the Pines managed to hold back most of the Georgie's attempts on goal and Sunshine seemed to lack that killer punch once again. Fidel Richards, Eduardo Soares, Mark Draycott and Tent Waterson had chances to make something but couldn't and Nick Waite and Metcalff for the Pines also had their chances on the break but neither was able to convert.

In the end the game remained a goal a piece, which leaves Frankston on

**Man of the Match**  
**Trent Waterson**  
(Georgies)

22 points and bottom of the ladder, while Sunshine is on 24 points and still thereabouts. Pines have a nightmare run home playing the current top three teams, while Sunshine plays Gully, Heidelberg and the Blues.

**By Reuben Schembri**  
**Photos by Daniel Flis**

*Above: Sunshine's Fidel Richards tries to dribble past his marker*  
*Left: Sunshine's Manny Muscat is denied by the Pines custodian*



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VODAFONE CUP

Round 23



# ZEBRAS DO THE TRICK OVER MAGIC



THIRD LOSS IN A ROW FOR ALTONA, ZEBRAS OVERJOYED

## Altona Magic 1 - 2 Bulleen Zebras

Bulleen eased relegation fears with a battling 2-1 win over Altona at Paisley Park on Saturday Night. Early goals from Hamlet Armenian and Steve Martin gave the Zebras what proved to be an unassailable lead.

Bulleen controlled possession in the early stages, and that paid off with two well taken goals. The Zebras signalled their intentions in the 11th minute when Ben Harbinson crossed from deep and Magic goalkeeper Bojo Jedjevic had to come quickly off his line to pluck the ball from the head of Hamlet Armenian.

Shortly after in the 15th minute Bulleen got their opener, again courtesy of a quality cross from wide. Ricky Diaco worked his way down the left flank, passed to Damien Gugliemi, and it was his cross swung in for Hamlet Armenian that created the opportunity. Armenian, running through the penalty area, glanced the ball into the top right hand corner, to give Bulleen a 1-0 lead. The quality of Armenian's goal was acknowledged by his jubilant team-mates, and Bulleen had just reward for their early attacking endeavour.

But they weren't done with scoring yet. In the 18th minute Jedjevic came for an Ari Drakos free kick coming in from the right flank, but he fisted the ball straight into a large pack of players. The ball rebounded out of the scramble into the path of Steve Martin, who tapped into an empty net to give the Zebras a 2-0 lead. In the 33rd minute it was Altona's Sash Becvinovski creating problems for Bulleen, running onto a through ball and holding off two defenders to shoot from 10 yards. His shot slewed wide, but referee Jim Ouliaris had seen an infringement, and paid a penalty to the Magic. Becvinovski blasted the ball straight down the middle, Bulleen goalkeeper Tomas Kovar unable to read the penalty. But after pegging the goal back Bulleen continued to control Altona's moves in midfield, Simon Bell particularly energetic with his clean, well-timed tackling.



Bulleen's Simon Bell on the ball

The second half was a tighter affair, but to the Zebras credit they still made the contest a mid-field battle, rather than a rearguard action to hold their lead. In the 51st minute Ricky Diaco was played through at the half way mark, and Jedjevic overran the ball coming off his line. A desperate

Stanko Zilic got across to clear the ball to safety before Diaco could have a pop at the empty net. Altona's search for an equaliser yielded few chances, and in the final 10 minutes a series of free kicks and corners failed to result in a meaningful shot on the target. But before then a few chances

went begging for the Magic. In the 56th minute Ivan Razov had a crack from the top of the penalty area, but Kovar saw the ball all the way and dived forward to hold the save. In the 64th minute Arsovski rose highest to a Vasilevski corner but his header slid over the bar. And then in the 77th minute Kovar saved the day for Bulleen with a great parried block after a Vasilevski free kick skimmed off a pack of players. Kovar then went one better to fist the loose ball away. The joy was evident on the faces of the Bulleen players at full time, as survival became all the more realistic, and would you believe it, sixth spot became an attainable target again.

By Teo Pellizzeri  
Photos By Daniel Flis

### What the Coaches Said...

Vlado Torteovski  
Coach, Altona Magic:

It was a very hard game and they scored a couple of early goals, which were defensive mistakes on our part. We managed to come back and possibly could have scored an equaliser in the second half to maybe grab a point. All credit to Bulleen who played better on the day and now we've just got to think about our next game against Frankston.

Michael Michalakopoulos  
Coach, Bulleen Zebras:

Very satisfying result and relieved. We worked very hard together as a unit and defended very well. We had eleven workers on the field and it was a huge result against a top three side, away from home. We definitely needed the three points and it was good to have some of our more established players back. Having said that, we had eleven winners across the park on Saturday night.

Man of the Match  
Daniel Greco  
(Zebras)



Above: Altona's Sash Becvinovski got one back for the Zebras from the penalty spot  
Left: Bulleen's Simon Bell protests as he is shown a yellow card

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# VODAFONE CUP

Round 23

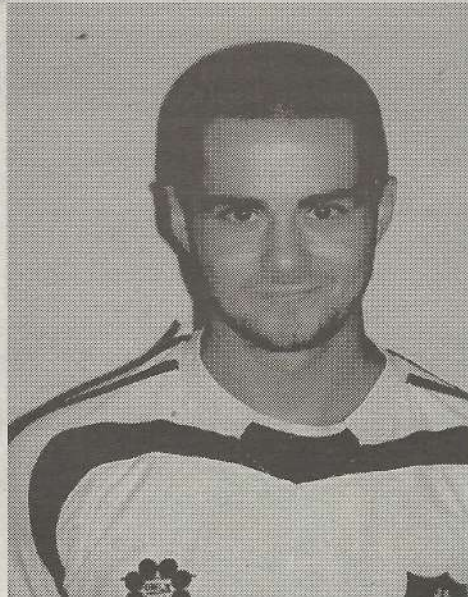
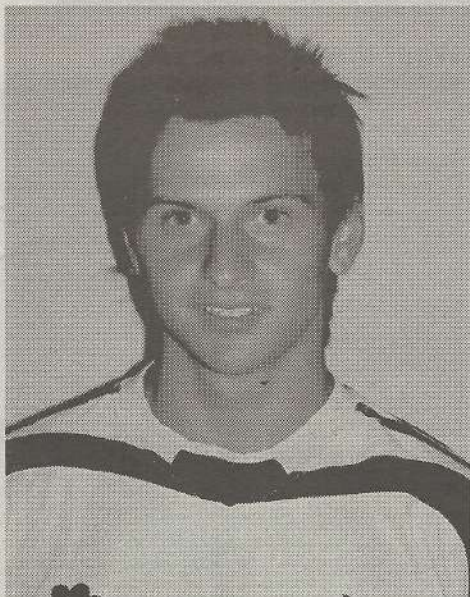


## EAGLES HIT DIZZY HEIGHTS



LATE RESPONSE FROM KINGSTON AS RICHMOND'S RISE CONTINUES

### Kingston City 1 - 3 Richmond Eagles



On fire: Young gun Daniel Visevic (left) scored twice while his team-mate Graham Hockless also got on the scoresheet

**Rebounding from last week's loss to South Melbourne, Richmond returned to winning form with a 3-1 triumph at Kingston City.**

In the opening minute the Eagles showed positive signs of gaining a good result, with a cross from Steve Burton headed wide by Veton Korcarevski from fourteen yards. Three minutes later a cross by Fergal O'Colmain on the left found Burton at the far post but he mis-controlled the ball and the opportunity to shoot went begging. When Kingston went on the counter-attack, Stuart McCluskey fouled Peter Koutsoupias near the halfway line and picked up an early yellow card.

The opening goal of the match came after just nine minutes. Chasing a ball forward O'Colmain beat advancing Reds keeper Daniel Zilic to the ball with an outstretched foot. The ball spilled around the box before it was picked up by Korcarevski who laid it square to the unmarked Daniel Visevic from just inside the penalty area.

When play got back underway James Baskerville charged into the box after a quickly taken free kick for a foul on Visevic, Zilic saving his strike after the Kingston defence recovered to steer Baskerville wide. Koutsoupias tried his luck from long range for the home team, shooting wide after running onto a bouncing ball for-

ward. Two minutes he shot wide again.

On eighteen minutes McCluskey supplied a cross which Baskerville headed straight at Zilic for an easy save. A Visevic cross then created havoc in the Kingston backline, a clearance falling to O'Colmain who volleyed just wide.

Six minutes later a great ball from Baskerville into the path of Korcarevski saw a penalty awarded when the Richmond striker was brought down by Zilic as he broke into the corner of the box. Graham Hockless stepped up to take the kick with regular taker James Robinson on the bench, and made no mistake to convert and double Richmond's lead.

Richmond remained well on top for the remainder of the opening half. A Semir Sivic corner led to McCluskey forcing a save from Zilic with a header. In the thirty-fifth minute Visevic produced a moment of magic, skinning Con Anthopolous and unleashing a powerful strike from just outside the box which struck the roof of the net for his tenth goal of the season.

Joey Di Iorio forced Nick Crossley into a save early on in the second half, as the home side looked to get back into the match. Richmond replied with O'Colmain heading a free-kick from Burton at Zilic, before Marcus Stergiopoulos made Crossley pull off another good save with a free-kick, the ball being tipped around the post for a corner.

Kingston pulled a goal back in the fifty-sixth minute, Di Iorio beating defenders in the left corner and his cross to Michael Curcija providing him with a simple finish. The league's leading goalscorer notching up his fifteenth of the campaign and giving his side some hope.

In the sixty-sixth minute Curcija tested Richmond again, his free kick headed over the crossbar by Noel Bahnsen. As the game wore on it was apparent that though Kingston were having the better of the half, Richmond would have few problems in holding their lead. Crossley was able to deal with all of Kingston's attacking threats, punching away a free-kick from Jimmy Latinopoulos late in proceedings and then making a save from a follow-up shot. The score re-

#### Ken Murphy

**Coach, Kingston City:**

For my last game in charge of Altona, Richmond beat us 1-0 and my thoughts then were that they were an extremely hard running and physically imposing side. I tried to make everyone aware of that, but that they steam-rolled us the first 30 mins and were extremely impressive. We totally dominated the second 45 mins, but that's useless when you're 3-0 down. I take my hat off to Richmond, but we can't afford to do that too often.

#### Phil Stubbins

**Coach, Richmond Eagles:**

From our perspective and for the boys that we put on the pitch it was as pleasing as we've seen all season. The boys were tremendous in the first half especially. The second half was obviously a different story, but being 3-0 up at half time was probably game over for them. Kingston had a real go at us after the break and probably had a couple of half chances, but overall it was a thoroughly deserved win for Richmond.

**Man of the Match  
Daniel Visevic  
(Eagles)**

maintained 3-1 at the final whistle, as the Eagles keep the pressure on Green Gully and Preston Lions in the battle for a place in the Top Six.

By Mark Boric

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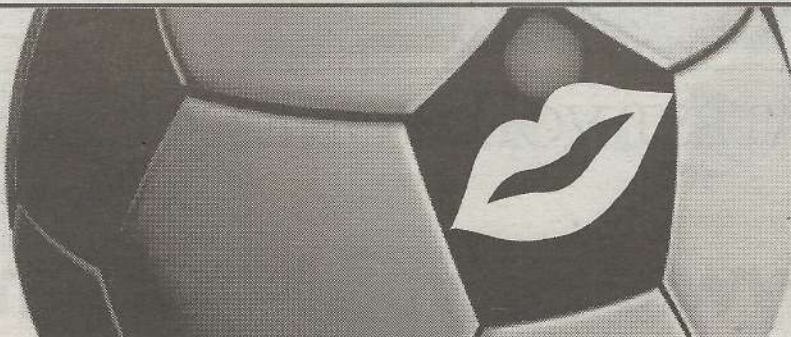
Kingston striker Michael Curcija scored for the Reds taking his tally for the season to 15

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# VODAFONE CUP

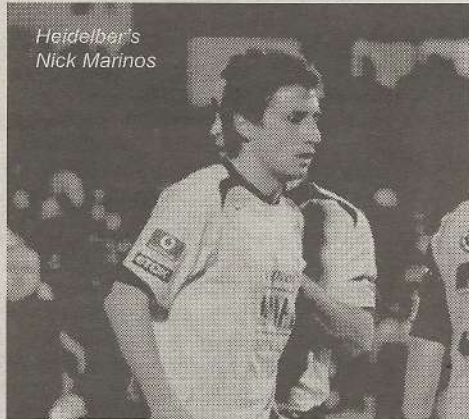
Round 23



## ROYALS READY TO BITE INTO BERGERS



### Essendon Royals vs Heidelberg Utd Warriors



Heidelberg's Nick Marinos

With the end of the home and away season fast approaching and the ladder beginning to take shape, Monday night's blockbuster between Essendon and Heidelberg looms as a vital encounter for both sides.

As Heidelberg push to cement a place in the top six, the Royals are fighting for survival, slowly finding themselves dragged into the lower reaches of the Vodafone

Cup table.

And while pundits have focused their attention on the fortunes of more recognized clubs, the sudden rise and fall of Essendon has proved to be one of Victorian football's most disappointing tales.

Cast your mind back 12 months ago and the side was a team on the up, challenging for a debut finals appearance and seeming primed for an at times unlikely tilt at the VPL title.

But after the sudden loss of then coach Michael Michalakopoulos and established stars Steve Iosifidis and Michael Curcija at seasons end, the side imploded and plummeted from finals contender to relegation battler. Although the team displayed a unique fighting spirit throughout the current season, a lack of continuity at the helm amongst other factors has led to the side sitting perilously close to the relegation zone in 12th position.

Currently in the midst of a form slump that has produced solely two victories since the end of May, Essendon must dig deep and produce performances of the highest order in the last four rounds to avoid slipping into further peril.

In stark contrast to the Royals fortunes, last year's beaten Grand Finalists, Heidelberg has proved itself to be the most unpredictable side in the entire league.

After parting ways with Phil Stubbins midway through

the season, pundits predicted Heidelberg's charge for a top two place would unravel and that the side would slowly plummet into the anonymous wastelands of mid-table football.

However, although the first few games under new coach Con Pappas proved shaky, the 'Bergers were able to regain momentum and overcome the bouts of inconsistency which had plagued the side throughout the year.

Now only three points adrift of second place and a vital double chance in the finals series, Heidelberg have claimed the scalps of a resurgent Preston and star-studded Kingston City in recent weeks sparking speculation that the side may in fact challenge for the Vodafone Cup crown.

While Heidelberg are in possession of one of the league's most damaging attacks, the team from the Veneto Club have one of the more resolute defences in Victoria, setting the stage for a brilliant 'bout'.

Nonetheless though, it seems that the 'Bergers may be too strong for Essendon although the side should never be discounted.

By Simon Chiarelli



Essendon's Joseph Yuseff

#### What the Coaches Said...

**David Winton**

**Coach, Essendon Royals:**

Well after a couple of bad results were obviously very keen to get back on track and put in a good performance. Three points are imperative and we must get a win. The finals series is entertaining, but it's also very close down the bottom as well. The last two games have dragged us into that, just when it looked like we were getting away from it.

Training this week has been very positive and we've got it in mind to show we're a better team than what's been shown the last couple of weeks.

**Con Pappas**

**Coach, Heidelberg Utd:**

We're expecting another difficult game away from home. Essendon are a hard team to play against and we need to get a result. I'd imagine every game is a cup final for them, as is for us at this time of year. We'll be looking to go out there and play to our strengths. We've got Tricarico and Yusef back, which will obviously alleviate some of our selection headaches. We're at that stage where we need to get good results for ourselves to consolidate our place in the Top Six and not rely on anyone else to do the work for us.

#### FORM TABLE Past 8 matches

##### Essendon Royals

	matches	won	draw	lost	goals	points
home	8	2	1	5	5-8	7
away	8	3	2	3	7-9	11
total	16	5	3	8	12-17	18

##### Heidelberg Utd

	matches	won	draw	lost	goals	points
home	8	5	1	2	13-11	16
away	8	3	3	2	14-11	12
total	16	8	4	4	27-22	28

#### MONDAY MATCH STATS

	ER	HU
Recent form HOME	L-L-W-L	W-W-L-W
Recent form AWAY	L-W-D-L	W-L-W-L
Next info is based on last 50 matches		
Home win	42%	54%
Home draw	25%	21%
Home lost	33%	25%
Home goals	1.25 PM	1.71 PM
Away win	25%	42%
Away draw	29%	33%
Away lost	46%	25%
Away goals	1 PM	1.71 PM

Past matches

Apr 24, 2006 VPL Heidelberg U Essendon 0 - 0  
Jul 25, 2005 VPL Essendon Heidelberg U 1 - 1  
Apr 17, 2005 VPL Heidelberg U Essendon 2 - 1

PM= Per Match



## MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL

ESSENDON ROYALS

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# STATE LEAGUE ONE

Round 18



## NICHOLS BAGS HAT-TRICK IN 5-0 WIN

Division One moves into the final stretch with Round 18 just passed and it all started Friday night when the Springvale White Eagles consolidated their second spot on the ladder with a 3-1 victory over Northcote City who remains second bottom. It was the Papadopolous show with Nikolaos Papadopolous scoring a hat-trick for the White Eagles while George Papadopolous scored the goal for Northcote.

The other Friday night game saw North Geelong visit the Anderson Reserve and share the spoils in a two all draw. The result leaves the North Geelong side all but clinging to hope of promotion but more then likely set to finish just short, while Port Melbourne stays mid table. Goals for the home side Port Melbourne came from Rosario Cardillo And Ozan Kara while Geelong's goals were from David Cervinski and Tony Saric.

Saturday saw Langwarrin welcome Brunswick city and give the disappointing side from the Dunstan reserve a right old 5-0 spanking. Caleb Nichols scored a hat trick while the other goals came from Ben Caffrey and David Breslin. This win puts Lagwarrin third and with an outside chance of challenging for the top two spots while Brunswick continues its slide, which sees them in danger of being in the relegation playoff picture.

Saturday night Saw the Dandenong Thunder



Hat-Trick Hero: Caleb Nichols celebrates one of his goals during Brunswick's demolition

welcome North Coburg to George Andrews reserve and under the light recorded a 1-1 draw. A result that leaves North coburg safely mid table and keeps the Thunder in the relegation playoff mix. Steven Mancevski scored for Coburg whilst Masumi Nishida scored for the home side

Sunday's games saw the ladder topping Western Suburbs cement their one game break on top with a two goals to one victory away at the Bentleigh Greens. Tony Neceski and Leandro Rizzo scored for Suburbs whilst Ben Coggar scored for the

Greens. The Greens sit third bottom and firmly in the relegation/playoff scenario.

The final game killed St Albans' hopes of promotion as they traveled to Altona east and shared the points. Ilija Rados scored for St Albans and Nick Tsaltas for the Altona East side, which is deep in the relegation scrap.

By Reuben Schembri  
Photos by John Punshon

### ROUND NINETEEN FIXTURES

BRUNSWICK CITY  
v  
DANDENONG THUNDER  
Dunstan Reserve,  
Brunswick Mel: 29 B4  
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NORTH GEELONG WARRIORS  
v  
SPRINGVALE WHITE EAGLES  
Elcho Park,  
Lara MEL: 608 D15  
Saturday 19th August  
KO 3pm

WESTERN SUBURBS  
v  
LANGWARRIN  
Ralph Reserve,  
Ardeer Mel: 40 A2  
Sunday 20th August  
KO 3pm

NORTH COBURG UNITED  
v  
PORT MELBOURNE  
Reddish Reserve,  
Glenroy MEL: 17 E14  
Sunday 20th August  
KO 3pm

NORTHCOTE CITY  
v  
ALTONA EAST PHOENIX  
John Cain Memorial Park,  
Thornbury MEL: 31 A6  
Sunday 20th August  
KO 3pm

ST ALBANS SAINTS  
v  
BENTLEIGH GREENS  
Churhill Reserve,  
St Albans Mel: 14 D10  
Sunday 20th August  
KO 3pm



Langwarrin's Simon O'Donnell tangles with an opponent

### STATE ONE SENIORS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P	T
Western Suburbs SC	18	11	5	2	31	15	38	
Springvale White Eagles SC	18	10	5	3	26	17	35	
Langwarrin SC	18	7	8	3	34	18	29	
North Geelong Warriors SC	17	7	7	3	36	29	28	
St. Albans Saints SC	18	6	8	4	22	16	26	
North Coburg United SC	17	6	7	4	25	16	25	
Port Melbourne Sharks SC	18	5	7	6	25	30	22	
Dandenong Thunder SC	18	4	6	8	20	29	18	
Brunswick City SC	18	5	3	10	25	40	18	
Bentleigh Greens SC	18	3	6	9	20	26	15	
Altona East Phoenix SC	18	2	9	7	12	27	15	
Northcote City SC	18	3	5	10	14	27	14	

Springvale White Eagles 3 (N Papadopolous 3)  
Northcote City 1 (G Papadopolous) (HT: 1-0),

Port Melbourne 2 (R Cardillo, O Kara)  
North Geelong Warriors 2 (D Cervinski, T Saric) (HT: 1-0),

Langwarrin 5 (B Caffrey, D Breslin, C Nicholes 3)  
Brunswick City 0 (HT: 4-0),

Dandenong Thunder 1 (M Nishida)  
North Coburg United 1 (S Mancevski) (HT: 0-1),

Bentleigh Greens 1 (B Cogger)  
Western Suburbs 2 (L Rizzo, T Neceski) (HT: 1-1),

Altona East Phoenix 1 (N Tsaltas)  
St. Albans Saints 1 (I Rados) (HT: 0-0)

### STATE ONE RESERVES

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P	T
Western Suburbs SC	18	13	2	3	47	18	41	
Springvale White Eagles SC	18	11	5	2	44	20	38	
Langwarrin SC	17	10	6	1	43	22	36	
Dandenong Thunder SC	18	11	0	7	40	22	33	
Brunswick City SC	17	10	3	4	34	29	33	
Northcote City SC	17	9	2	6	35	26	29	
Bentleigh Greens SC	18	4	6	8	25	36	18	
North Geelong Warriors SC	18	4	3	11	19	35	15	
Altona East Phoenix SC	18	3	6	9	14	34	15	
North Coburg United SC	17	4	2	11	18	38	14	
Port Melbourne Sharks SC	18	3	4	11	24	41	13	
St. Albans Saints SC	18	3	3	12	17	39	12	

Springvale Eagles 2  
Northcote City 0,

Port Melbourne 0  
North Geelong 1,

Langwarrin 5  
Brunswick City 3,

Dandenong Thunder 2  
North Coburg 1,

Bentleigh Greens 0  
Western Suburbs 1,

Altona East Phoenix 1  
St. Albans Saints 0



vodafone

## STATE LEAGUES

Action between  
Brunswick and Langwarring  
in State League One



## NINE GOAL THRILLER!!

**Knox City 5 Southern Stars 4**  
(Half time 1-1)

Where do you start to describe this thriller at Egan Lee Reserve on Saturday?

Despite being the better side all day, Knox City contrived to let the Southern Stars back into the game on a number of occasions before holding on for a 5-4 victory.

The tempo of the game was set right from the start as Knox took the game right up to the joint league leaders. In the first two minutes crosses from Spina and Nasser skidded across the Stars goalmouth without anyone getting a touch.

Five minutes in and Knox took the lead as a good movement was finished off in emphatic style by Vernon.

The home side should have taken a commanding lead as they constantly pushed forward against a defence lacking the leadership of Caliskan. Under 17 Australian international, Leigh Broxham, in his first senior game for Knox, was having a profound effect on the middle of the park with his control and distribution.

Ziada, Vernon and Nasser all missed golden opportunities to increase Knox's lead in the first half. Such was their dominance that it was 20 minutes before Southern Stars had a shot on target. Ziada missed a close range header, Vernon missed the ball completely five metres out and Nasser made a great run through the heart of the defence, rounded Pajic in the Stars goal only to hit the side netting.

At the other end Akdogan had the ball in the net after 21 minutes but he was clearly offside. Six minutes later, Knox paid

for its profligacy when Doganay latched on to a mishit shot to drive the ball across Skinner into the net.

If the first half was entertaining, it was nothing to the second half.

After 49 minutes, Edgar picked up a loose ball in the area and drove the ball unerringly past Pajic.

Ten minutes later, Doganay got his second and Stars second equaliser when he rose brilliantly at the far post to power a header past Skinner.

Four minutes later and Knox took the lead again. Nasser latched on to a poor clearance and played a square ball to Vernon who cleverly moved the ball on to Swaine whose drive gave Pajic no chance.

It was end to end stuff as Spina and Swaine combined well only for the ball to be cleared off the line and then at the other end Akdogan and Driver both went close for the visitors.

After 73 minutes, it looked as though Knox had made the game safe when Edgar drove forward, released Ziada whose cross was converted from close range by Vernon.

Far from it as within the next minute an indirect free kick in the Knox penalty area was touched to Pizzirusso, who made no mistake with a fierce shot.

Only a minute later and Edgar grabbed his second with a header to restore the two-goal advantage at 5-3. Three goals in two minutes and it wasn't over yet.

Southern Stars then hit the woodwork twice in a minute as they looked to get back into the match. They were given a lifeline in the 85th minute when a harmless looking through ball created a mix up between Humphreys and Skinner, leaving Aydogan a simple tap in to set up a furious finish.

After the hectic first 85 minutes, there were few chances created in the last five as Knox saw out time for a welcome victory, which helped to create a log-jam at the top of the table.

*Knox City: Skinner, Humphreys, Swami, Orlando, Edgar, Broxham, Ziada, Swaine, Vernon, Spina, Nasser. Subs not used: O'Connor, Becirovic, Hughes, Marshall.*

*Southern Stars: Pajic, Akdogan, Damiano (Grella -79th), Castel, Boi, Mucuj (Kurk -63rd), Pizzirusso, Arnauts, Doganay, Driver, Aydogan. Subs not used - Baran, Caliskan, Laverdure.*

By Bruce Darnell

## GROOM'S HAT-TRICK MAKES VALLEY THE BRIDE

**Eastern Lions 3 Diamond Valley 0**

Eastern Lions kept its hopes of survival in Division 2 S/E alive with a comfortable 3-0 win over Diamond Valley.

Valley went into the game knowing they had to win to keep its hopes of a top two spot alive. However after Saturday's display they can only be described as the Great Pretenders of Division Two.

Valley began brightly enough and Shaun Wilhelm broke clear in the fifth min. but a bad bounce of the ball spoiled his scoring attempt. Valley's efforts were concentrated down the right with Kevin Unwin and Tony Guiliano, but the Lions' defence

was watertight. Carlo Mason, Matt Verniers and James Wild took care of anything that Valley came up with.

After 12 mins. Chad Bullock took a long throw from the right, the ball was headed across goal to find Simon Groom at the far post and Lions were 1 up.

Valley's reply was a shot from Wilhelm which hit the side netting, but overall Valley looked sluggish in comparison with the Lions. Just after the half hour mark, a long ball played out of the Lions' defence beat everyone but Groom who gathered it and put the home side 2 up. Sefgi Murat came on for Unwin in an effort to give Valley more punch up front, but Mason marshalled his troops well and Groom, Bullock and Eric Huynh had the visitors chasing shadows at the other end.

Wilhelm clashed with Lions' goalie Con Pavlou soon after the break and sparked a wild melee, surprisingly no cards were seen and the game resumed. Adam Raynes headed a Guiliano cross just over and Mark Court fired Valley's first direct shot at goal but Pavlou was well positioned to save.

Valley plugged away but had no answer to the close marking of the home defence and 9mins from time Valley's backline failed to clear a harmless ball into the middle and Groom completed his hat-trick to send the Valley boys home to think again!

Although beaten 4-2 Valley's reserves showed more resolve than their senior colleagues and were by no means disgraced. David Newell and David Agostinelli scored.

Next week is catch-up week and Valley will be home to Waverley Wanderers.

By Gordon Kirkwood

## KINGS CRUISE OVER OLD XAVS

**Berwick Kings 3 Old Xaverians 0**

Berwick Kings have cruised to an easy 3-0 win over Old Xaverians.

The game was played on a dry, sunny day - perfect for Berwick's quick-footed style of play. Old Xaverians matched them for passing skills but did not look like scoring. Berwick was dominant all around the ground with Zdravko Kecojevic, Ognjen Jovanovic and even Dragan Stojilovic on his wrong wing, looking dangerous. Even so there seemed to be something missing with Berwick lacking a spark or moments of individual brilliance.

In the 24th minute of the match Berwick got the breakthrough. Stojilovic started the play when he chipped a long ball up and in front of Ljubisa Medic. The Old Xaverian goalkeeper waited for the ball to come to him after the bounce but Medic attacked and headed the ball over the keeper for a goal.

Ten minutes later Berwick scored again through an obviously well-rehearsed set play. Mark Litkowski put in a long throw to Kecojevic at the front post. He headed the ball back to Krsto Stanasic who hit a first time shot in for a goal to make the score 2-0.

Berwick's defence were dominant in the first half as well. The team of Deny Jintor, Pero Trakilovic and Dragan Marjanac produced many strong clearances both in the air and on the ground. Berwick players were being allowed a lot of time and space which was shown when they got their third goal in the 38th minute. Kecojevic put the ball out in front of Medic who cut the ball back past the keeper into goal.

There was to be no Old Xaverians comeback in the second half as Berwick continued to dominate possession. Medic continued to be lively as he strove for a hat-trick but all of his shots were either saved or just missed the target. Kecojevic also had a couple of chances that he could not convert.

This was the first in nine matches that Berwick had lasted a whole match without any player receiving a card. That may reflect the ease in which they were able to come away from this game with a win.

Next week will be a much tougher ask when Berwick take on Lyndale United. It is a top of the table clash that will have a massive bearing on which team is crowned champion at the end of the season.

By Shana Morgan

# Vukovar's 90 Game Winning Streak Broken

St. Albans Vukovar's 90 game unbeaten run in the Victorian Amateur Premier League (Morning) competition finally came to an end last Sunday morning at the hands of Churchill Reserve co-tenants and fierce rivals HNK Mostar. In recent years, St. Albans Vukovar have won a plethora of titles and trophies along the way, but their biggest achievement was the setting of a new Australian record in league matches, which now finally stands at 90.

Some people are calling Mostar's win over their fellow rivals Vukovar "As the biggest sports upset since Australia 2 won the Americas cup," as Mostar's form in the league has been indifferent to say the least. The mid-table side suffered a 4-1 loss at home to the bottom of the table Keilor Wolves the previous week, before shocking the football world with their hard fought 2-1 win over the reigning champs, Vukovar.

Mostar drew first blood mid way thru the first half after a failed clearance by the Vukovar defense from an ensuing corner resulted in an own goal. Mostar struck again just before the hour mark, as a trade mark free kick by Motar's 'Gaffer' Branko Bacak (ex Saints & Suburbs striker) sizzled passed Vukovar's Keeper, Anthony Sakic, to give the underdogs a 2-0 lead.



Mostar's second goal sparked the champions, as Vukovar's player coach Goran Trogalic (ex Bulleen & Saints midfielder) responded with a four pronged at-

tack. Bacak sensed the shift in momentum and made the necessary adjustments his back line. However, Vukovar was rewarded for their bravery with 15 minutes

left to play, when young gun Stipe Mrso eloquently pegged one back for Vukovar.

Vukovar had the scent of blood, but Mostar's sweeper Damir Movric (ex Saints Midfielder) held firm, marshalling his backline like "Rommel." Unlike previous occasions between the two, the Moustarian's this time held out for an historic win.

Mostarian stalwart Bruno Hrstic took out the, Ante Brkljacic medal, for his best on ground performance.

Mostars President Branko Duzel said after the game "That he had experienced nothing sweeter in his short term at the club" as the boys partied hard well into the early hours of Monday morning. He also praised the achievement of Vukovar's unbeaten streak and said "That it won't be broken in our lifetimes", as well as praising the performance of new recruit, Marko Vukovic.

By Bruno Zovko

*Goal! Weekly would like to apologise to our readers for the technical difficulties on this article last week, which only left half the article of Vukovar's historic record.*





# 2006/2007 A-League Pre-Season Cup



## Adelaide Remains Unbeaten



1 Adelaide Utd

0 NZ Knights

The Newcastle Jets and Queensland Roar have Adelaide United has continued its good form with a 1-0 Hyundai A-League Pre-Season Cup victory over the New Zealand Knights at Hindmarsh Stadium.

A Carl Veart penalty saw United take the lead in the 19th minute and from that point they were never seriously challenged.

The strong crowd of 12,006 had its first taste of football this season and got right behind the South Australian side, hopeful the result would earn their team a place in a semi-final.

With teams able to secure bonus points during Round Four, United will have to wait on the completion of other games to know if it has made the final four.

They have eight points after two wins and two draws to currently sit atop of Group A. Central Coast has seven points, while Perth has two points and Melbourne one. Veart earned his penalty with a burst of pace into the 18-metre box. Chasing down a long pass, the veteran proved too quick for two Knights defenders and his surge on goal was only stopped by a tackle by keeper, Ivan Necevski.

Veart struck the penalty low and hard into the right corner of the net leaving Necevski to sweat on a yellow card he received for the duo's collision.

The goal sparked United into action and they controlled the remainder of the first half. They had their opposition under continual pressure by taking long-distance shots and regularly finding holes in New Zealand's defence.

The Knights did go close to equalising in the 42nd minute. Sean Devine headed a long floating Daniel Rodrigues cross but was denied a goal by goalkeeper Daniel Beltrame.

The sting went out of the contest in the second half with New Zealand unable to sustain enough attacking pressure on their opponent.

The experienced Adelaide duo of Richie Alagich and Ross Aloisi were rested midway through the half Aloisi's replacement Adam Van Dommele had a chance to score the home side's second goal late in the match but put the ball well over the crossbar.

United coach John Kosmina said he was disappointed his players didn't make the most of their opportunities but was pleased the team was able to control most of the contest.

"I think the second half of the first half was fantastic, the way we moved the ball, it was really good, we played some really nice football," he said.

"We had the Knights on the back foot, even in the second half."

"As much as it (the second half) was a bit duller ... we had them more concerned about we were doing than what they can do."

New Zealand Knights coach Paul Nevin said his side



Adelaide's Carl Veart scored from the penalty spot

also rued missed shots on goal, especially during the opening minutes when the game was up for grabs.

"I thought if we had put one of those away it could've turned the game a little bit but it didn't and Adelaide started to get into the game," he said.

"I felt we didn't create as many chances in the second half and I felt Adelaide possibly killed the game in the

last 15 minutes, they are very experienced and very good at doing that."

Adelaide United 1 (Veart 19)  
New Zealand Knights FC 0

Crowd: 12,006

## Mariners hold Roar



0 QLD Roar

0 CC Mariners

Central Coast Mariners have reclaimed Group A top spot from Adelaide United following a 0-0 draw against Queensland Roar in the Hyundai A-League Pre-Season Cup in Toowoomba.

In front of 4571 fans at the Clive Burghoffer Stadium, Ante Milicic had a handful of decent chances to break the deadlock before departing at half-time.

His best opportunity arrived on the stroke of the interval when Mariners captain Noel Spencer cleared off the line with Socceroo call-up Danny Vukovic stranded.

With 10 minutes to go, Damien Brown again cleared off the goal-line from Roar defender Remo Buess after Vukovic had dropped a corner into his Swiss defender's path.

Matt McKay then forced Vukovic into a fingertip save to preserve the Central Coast's seven-match unbeaten run in the Pre-Season Cup.

Following Newcastle and New Zealand's losses earlier in

the round, the Roar started the day knowing a win would guarantee a place in the semi-finals.

The Mariners also knew a third win of the pre-season tournament or a draw would confirm a semi-final berth.

But goalscoring chances were at a premium despite the additional points available in the bonus round.

Milicic wasted the first of his five first-half chances within 16 seconds of kick-off when he opted not to shoot after being put clean through by McKay.

The former Jets striker then forced Vukovic into the match's first save after connecting with Massimo Murodca's deep cross before, midway through the half, stylishly holding off Central Coast defender Alex Wilkinson before turning and planting a shot wide.

But the battle continued in midfield with Spencer's blazed shot from long distance the closest the Mariners came to troubling Roar goalkeeper Tom Willis.

Then, in injury time, neat interplay between Hyuk-Su Seo and Andrew Packer resulted in Milicic rounding Vukovic but his goalbound effort was cleared off the line by a superb last-ditch clearance from the irrepressible Spencer.

Even though Queensland was aware a goalless draw would be insufficient to seal a top two finish, coach Miron Bleiberg replaced Milicic with youngster Tim Smits at the break as the Roar searched for its first win of the new season.

But the change didn't alter the spectacle with the second-half's better efforts falling to Stewart Petrie and Andre Gumprecht for the Mariners before Buess scrambled a shot after Vukovic had dropped Packer's corner, but Brown was in the right place to clear. The Mariners goalkeeper then made amends moments later with a flying stop from McKay's blast from outside the box before Willis foiled Mariners substitute James Holland in injury time.

Queensland Roar 0  
Central Coast Mariners 0



### GROUP A

	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1.	Central Coast Mariners FC	4	2	2	0	5	2	3	8
2.	Adelaide United FC	4	2	2	0	2	0	2	8
3.	Melbourne Victory FC	4	1	1	2	5	7	-2	6
4.	Perth Glory FC	3	0	2	1	2	3	-1	2

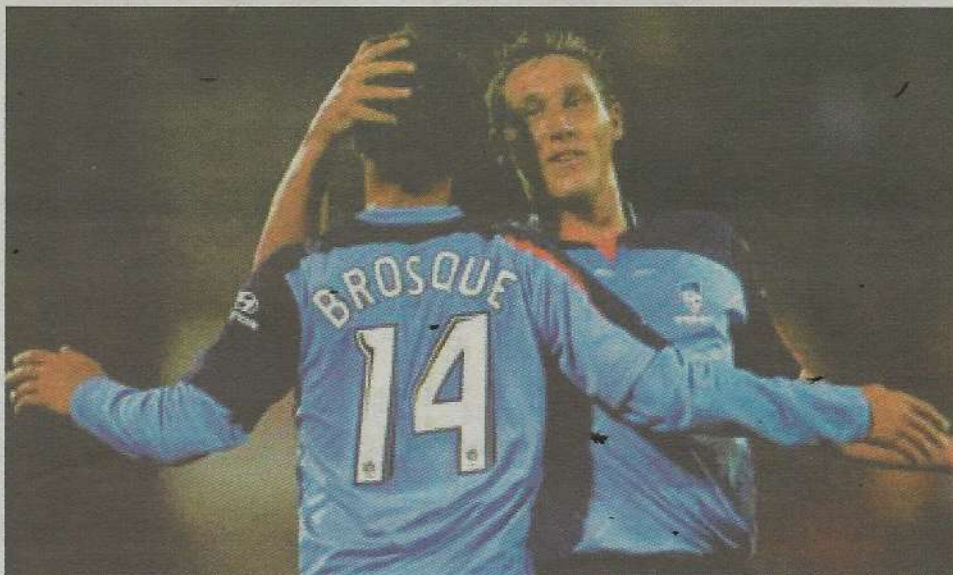
### LADDER



### GROUP B

	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1.	Sydney FC	3	2	1	0	4	2	2	7
2.	Newcastle Jets FC	4	0	2	2	4	6	-2	3
3.	New Zealand Knights FC	4	0	3	1	2	3	-1	3
4.	Queensland Roar FC	4	0	3	1	2	3	-1	3

## Sydney Accounts for Glory



3 Sydney FC

0 Perth Glory

Alex Brosque has scored two goals to help Sydney FC to a 3-0 victory over Perth Glory in their Hyundai A-League Pre Season Cup match at Wollongong's WIN Stadium on Sunday afternoon.

Brosque scored back-to-back goals in the 26th and 27th minutes as Sydney took control of the match in cold but fine conditions.

The win left Sydney on top of the ladder at the end of the bonus round and set up a semi-final showdown with Adelaide next Friday night at the same venue.

Sydney was without star Dwight Yorke, who was initially expected to make his return to this side in Wollongong but was ruled out earlier in the week after sustaining an injury during training.

Stan Lazaridis was a late withdrawal for the Glory and remained at the team hotel after falling ill during the day.

Sydney was immediately on the attack with Brosque and Sasho Petrovski close to scoring from separate shots after a corner from Steve Corica, but Glory goalkeeper Andrew Crews withstood the early assault.

Brosque again had a chance in the seventh minute but his powerful shot cruised over the crossbar, but it was another sign of Sydney's attacking potency.

Perth hit back two minutes later when David Micevski raced up the middle and chipped left to Naum Sekulovski, but his rocketing shot was just high, shaving the crossbar on its way over.

It was to be the only meaningful shot at goal the Glory had in the first half, with the visitors unable to penetrate the solid defensive line in Sydney's half.

The breakthrough came for Sydney in the 26th minute when Brosque hammered home a brilliant diagonal

cross from David Carney.

Crews came out to challenge the former Queensland striker, but the ball trickled underneath him and rolled into the back of the net.

The 6634-strong crowd only had to wait another minute before Brosque got his second, this time wrong-footing Crews before powering a Petrovski cross into the back of the net to give Sydney a 2-0 lead.

The hosts continued to pepper the Glory goal in search of a third, and despite solid shots from Carney and Petrovski, plus a long-range rocket from Mark Milligan, the inaugural A-League champion went to the break with the score unchanged.

While Perth initially looked to have stepped up its intensity as it quickly went on the attack, it didn't take long for the home side to regain the ascendancy.

Petrovski headed a perfect cross from Alvin Ceccoli just wide in the 50th minute, before another close-range shot five minutes later that Crews held on to.

But the Glory goalkeeper wasn't so lucky saving Petrovski's third attempt, with Sydney taking a 3-0 advantage in the 57th minute with a superb header.

The Glory never gave up as they attempted to close the margin late in the second half, but were unable to get past Sydney goalkeeper Clint Bolton.

Sydney will host the final should it defeat Adelaide United in Wollongong on Friday night.

Sydney FC 3 (Brosque 26, 27, Petrovski 57)  
Perth Glory 0

All information and photos on this page is courtesy of FFA.





# SUNSHINE G



Photo by Daniel Flis



**Back Row:** Fab Incantalupo (Ass.Coach), Benny Anastasiadis (Foot  
Martin John, Michael Fiorenza, Colin Azzopardi, Arthur Tsirtsakis,

**Bottom Row:** Ralph Napoli, Fahed Alghazaly, Trent Waters  
Eduardo Soares, Brett Gilmour, Janati

**Mascots:** Sebastien M



# GEORGIES FC



FOOTBALL  
FEDERATION  
VICTORIA



Operations Manager), Mark Draycott, Daniel Rocco, Damir Prodanovic,  
Vasko Delic, Bianca Tantarò (Physio), Joe Mantemurro (Senior Coach)  
Vasko Trpceviski, Emmanuel Muscat (Captain), Izzy Erdogan,  
Falzon, Aldo Lorient (Property Steward)  
Mantemurro, Timothy Tsirtsakis.

GOAL!  
WEEKLY





# 2006/2007 A-League Pre-Season Cup



## Melbourne Lives Up To Its Name in Tamworth



Victory's Brazilian recruit Alessandro in action against the Mariners during last week's loss at Olympic Park  
Photo by Daniel Flis

A late goal to Daniel Allsopp has given the Melbourne Victory a hard-earned 3-2 win over the Newcastle Jets in their Hyundai A-League Pre-Season Cup clash at Tamworth's Scully Park on Saturday night.

Allsopp finished off a perfect pass from midfielder Vince Lia to slot the winner in the 84th minute, but it wasn't enough to keep Melbourne in the competition -

the visitors needing four goals for a mathematical shot at the Cup.

Under the bonus points system for this round, Victory, courtesy of its three goals, secured two bonus points, while Newcastle picked up one point for scoring two goals.

Both teams were without a number of key players, with Melbourne's Brazilian import Fred suffering a carked thigh in training during the week, the side also without Adrian Caceres (calf) and Michael Ferrante (thigh).

With the Jets squad ravaged by injuries and missing players, Matthew Thompson was forced to take the field despite being ill leading up to the match.

Newcastle had the better start and wasted no time piling the pressure on in Melbourne's half, but it wasn't until the 12th minute that it had its first shot at goal, with Vaughan Coveny firing wide.

The Victory hit back shortly after with Simon Storey stepping past two Jets defenders to rocket a shot at goal, only to watch it shave the top of the crossbar in the 14th minute.

To the delight of the 3,100-strong crowd, the Jets were first on the board when right back Jade North fired home a brilliant pass from Thompson past Melbourne goalkeeper Michael Theoklitos in the 17th minute.

The visitors refused to be deflated by the goal and stepped up the intensity as they searched for the equaliser, with Storey and Roddy Vargas each taking shots at goal in quick succession.

Kristian Sarkies had the perfect opportunity to even the score when one on one with young Jets goalkeeper Ben Kennedy, but the midfielder mistimed his shot and it sailed well over the goal.

Newcastle looked set to head to the break with the lead before Archie Thompson received an unselfish pass from Allopp and made no mistake of powering home the equaliser just before the break.

The Victory stepped up after the break and were dominating the weakened Jets outfit, and it was skipper Kevin Muscat who put his side ahead when he converted a penalty after Andrew Durante handled the ball in the box in the 62nd minute.

But Newcastle again levelled the scores eight minutes later when it was also given a penalty, and Nick Carle

made no mistake of converting for a 2-2 scoreline. Melbourne was dealt a blow in the 75th minute when Thompson left the field with an apparent injury, but it had little impact as Allsopp allowed Melbourne to sneak home with his late goal.

Newcastle 2 (North 17, Carle 70p)

Melbourne 3 (Thompson 44, Muscat 62p, Allsopp 84)

Scully Park, Tamworth  
Crowd: 3,100



### Melbourne Victory Ins and Outs

**Major Gains -** Helbert Da Silva (Fred) (Tupi, Brazil), Claudio Assis (Claudio) (Atletico Paranaense, Brazil), Alessandro Da Silva (Alessandro)\* (Internacional RS, Brazil), Grant Brebner (Dundee United, Scotland), Adrian Caceres (Perth Glory)  
**Other Gains -** Rodrigo Vargas (Green Gully, VIC)

**Major Losses -** Richard Kitzbichler (Salzburg, Austria)  
**Other Losses -** Andy Vlahos (released), Carl Recchia (released), Chris Tadros (transferred to KFC Uerdingen, Germany in 05/06 season), Ricky Diaco (released)

## One on One With Geoffrey Claeys

**Q. You've been in Australia for almost a year now. Have you enjoyed your time here?**

A. Yes, it's been really good thank you. It's one of the best countries in the world to live in, so in a sense, it hasn't been that hard to adapt to at all. Everything has gone really smoothly.

**Q. That's the lifestyle, but what about the football?**

A. From my point of view the football hasn't been very good at the moment. I've been dropped several times already and as a footballer that is always annoying. But, as a professional you have to accept it. It's a part of football, it's a part of life and the only thing I can do is work hard, and when the coach needs me again, I'll be there.

**Q. As far as the rest of the team goes, in your opinion, how has the pre-season preparation been going for the Victory?**

A. We've played a lot of games against Vodafone Cup teams, and I suppose we did alright, mind you it was more for conditioning than anything else. We've also had the A-league Pre-season Cup, which wasn't as smooth as we would have hoped. But, we'll try and take as many positives as we can to turn things around and get us ready for the real competition, which starts shortly. I hope when it comes to the point we should be there and we're aiming for the 25th of August, when the serious stuff begins.

**Q. What can Melbourne Victory fans expect from the team this year around?**

A. I think if we want to do something for the members then we have to get into the Finals. We owe it to ourselves and to the members to make up for the unsatisfactory position of last year.

**Q. A lot of talk about the Brazilian recruits. How are they holding up?**

A. They're good boys and you can see they can play. They've got the skill and the right mentality, but they also have to prove themselves to the tough, physical nature of the Australian style. The first game is going to be very important...we've got Adelaide United in our first match of the season, who we've so far always struggled a little bit against, but that's when they'll have to stand up and show the fans what they're made of.

**Q. Which teams will be victory's biggest threat to Victory this season?**

A. I think we don't have to look or worry about any other team except ourselves. We just have to go out there and do better than last year. I'm very very sure of that. Our training is much different than last year, it's far better, and we're more sharper. I hope all the effort we've been putting in the training will come out in the ninety minutes of a match.

**Q. How is the training different this year?**

A. We've been training a lot harder and that's it. We want to be the fastest team, the quickest team, we want to be the sharpest team in the league. When you want that you have to put a lot more effort into ourselves and we have a good physical coach in Adam Basle, who is preparing us for what will hopefully be a good year.

**Q. Personally, what are your ambitions for this year?**

A. Right now, for me, it's to get back into the team.

**Q. What's the obstacle keeping you on the outer at the moment? Is it competition, form, the coach's opinion?**

A. Of course it's competition. But, I've been dropped and Ernie Merrick gave me an honest explanation. He said that he wants to give young Australians a go...ones that are quicker, sharper and faster than myself. Okay, it's hard to accept, but you have to accept it and move. Although you want the team to do well, I have to rely on injuries or suspensions to get my chance. When I get my chance I just have to make sure I'm ready to grab it.

**Q. Are you quite prepared to stick it out, or are you one of those players who would be happy to move on?**

A. I love Melbourne and the club and I'm happy to stay and finish my contract. Maybe if I can get a run



Claeys's future at Victory is uncertain but the former Belgian international is still working hard to get back into the squad

this year and do well I might be lucky enough to be offered a new deal.

**Q. Do you feel the pressure this year?**

A. Everybody is under pressure, but that's football all over the world. It's normal in this game and it's at every club. I'm under pressure, Ernie is under pressure, the Brazilians are under pressure. This business is all about results, results, results and we are under pressure to produce. We have to see who will stand up and who is capable of performing well under pressure. But, I have a good feeling about it.

**Q. What were your thoughts on the world cup?**

A. I was glad that Italy won because we had a sweep at the club and I won \$350!! Good stuff eh !!

Thanks for spending time with Goal! Weekly. We wish you all the very best for Season 2006/07.

## Yorke's Return Still on Ice

Dwight Yorke's return for Sydney FC has been delayed at least another week after he was ruled out of Sunday's clash with the Glory with a groin strain.

Yorke underwent an MRI scan on Friday which revealed a slight strain to his left groin, and he will undergo treatment this week before resuming training. The injury also means Yorke will miss Trinidad and Tobago's friendly with Japan on Wednesday.

"From our point of view the results of the preliminary scan are positive but we want to make sure that it is right before he gets back into training," Sydney coach Terry Butcher said.

Yorke took a well-earned break following the World Cup and is yet to play for the inaugural Hyundai A-League premiers so far this season.

The Sydney captain was frustrated not to be making his long-awaited return at Win Stadium this weekend.

"I'm disappointed. I came back from the World Cup and worked very hard to get fit and I was really starting to feel sharp again. I was looking forward to getting out on the pitch but this has set me back a little," Yorke said.

"I will now make sure I get things right because the start of the A-League is only three weeks away."





# BOO'S WORLD

A satirical look at the World of Football according to Mark Boric

It's time for Boo's Annual Time Machine Trip, this week we go back to 1964 via the 1964 Victorian Soccer Yearbook.

No nude girls on page 3, just an article, THIS YEAR 1964. The highlight is the opening line of the final paragraph: "In the year 1964 there will be no room for petty fueds and needless arguments". That's almost as good as Bob Hawke's "no child will be living in poverty" quote.

Page 13 contained a story "Stanley Matthews - the Knight of the Round Ball!" It was compulsory for all football publications up to 1975 to include something on the great winger. The Sporting Globe advertised the COMPLETE COVERAGE OF SOCCER HERE AND ABROAD on page 16. R.I.P The Sporting Globe.

Page 19 was an article on "Doc' The Man who put Soccer on the Map here". It was about Harry J. Dockerty. We used to play for a Cup named after him. R.I.P. Dockerty Cup.

Moving to the clubs that made up the State League. Alexander and George Cross both played at Olympic Village. Hakoah and South Melbourne Hellas occupied Middle Park. J.U.S.T. was based at Schintler Reserve. Juventus was at Elsternwick Park in the days before they were relegated to Se-rie B. Melbourne Hungaria also played there. Lions played at Montgomery Park in Essendon. Polonia played at the Maribyrnong Speedway. Slavia were from Anderson Oval, Port Melbourne. Triestina played at Campbell Reserve, Moreland and Wilhelmia had Jubilee Park in Ringwood. Not many of those grounds still exist, and the Village and Jubilee Park are in some sort of competition as to which is the most run-down ground from that era.

Page 42 was the "New Division Set-up" article. "The old North and South divisions of 1963 have been abolished" it explained. Eventually they would come back, with West added to North, and East added to South.

Austria were in the First Division. As were Box Hill, who played at Wembley (Park). Sandringham, Brighton and Collingwood, Dandenong City, Coburg United and Moreland were also in this league.

From that First Division Croatia played at Tracey's Speedway in Maribyrnong. Makedonia played



A beachside shot of Jimmy Pyrgolios of Hellas (left), with Vero Mladenovic, who gave great service to Footscray JUST and later to Fitzroy alexander in the 1960s

at Collier Street Reserve in Preston, and Oakleigh were at Lord's Reserve in Carnegie. Richmond were at Madden Grove in Burnley. Sunshine City, who would eventually amalgamate with George Cross were at Gardens Reserve, Anderson Road, which is the same ground Sunshine Georgies now use but call Chaplin Reserve, after the silent movie comedian.

Flinders Naval Depot, wearing navy and white shirts (what else?) were in the Second Division. Sadly they would disband before the Village People would release "In The Navy", depriving them of the opportunity to have the most apt club song in Victorian football history. R.I.P. Flinders Naval Depot.

The season started in March and finished in September. There were no finals, just the aforementioned Dockerty Cup. J.U.S.T. had taken out the 1963 title, by just two points from Polonia. They did

just enough, scoring sixty goals. And I've just about worn out the whole just thing. Just. Just about.

TWO NEW BOOKS are mentioned on page 121. "A Century of Soccer" and "Soccer - The British Way". I guess you can tell which one Ernie Merrick has in his possession.

There was also a Federation Cup, Harry Armstrong Cup and the Ampol Cup in those days. We used to have so many Cups but now the Cup cupboard is bare. There was even an Australia Cup, Slavia defeating Polonia 3-2 in an all-Melbourne final replay, Sydney's Prague and Adelaide's Juventus the beaten semi-finalists.

So much and so little has changed at the same time. Just.

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## FOOTBALL FUNNIES

"Dad, dad!" cried Philip, as he arrived home one evening. "I think I've been selected for the school football team."

"That's good," said his father. "But why do you only think you've been selected? Aren't you sure? What position are you playing?"

"Well," replied Philip, "it's not been announced officially, but I overheard the football coach tell my teacher that if I was in the team I'd be a great draw-back."

## QUIZ ANSWERS

1. Lebanon
2. Kevin Muscat
3. China
4. Wigan Athletic
5. Lukas Olsson
6. Mooroolbark
7. NZ knights
8. You'll never walk alone
9. Fiji
10. Yarrville Glory

## A QUESTION OF SPORT

Q1. Which of the Soccerroos' AFC group opponents had to withdraw from the competition?

Q2. Name the Melbourne Victory player who has been re-selected in to the Socceroo's squad for the AFC match against Kuwait?

Q3. Although still qualifying for next year's World Cup, who beat the Matildas 2-0 in the Final of the AFC Cup in Adelaide last week?

Q4. Socceroo Josip Skoko plays for which English Premier League side?

Q5. Which former Melbourne Knight hit four goals in the NSW Premier League Grand Final to help Sydney United beat Blacktown City 4-0 recently?

Q6. Which former NSL team plays at Esther Park in the Victorian State League South/East 3 competition?

Q7. Which A-league team calls North Harbour Stadium "home"?

Q8. Which football anthem did Gerry and the Pacemakers sing?

Q9. Oakleigh Cannons striker has represented which Oceania island nation as an International?

Q10. Can you name the one club in all the FFV competitions whose name begins with the letter "Y"?



Thanks to Melbourne's newest soccer depot, Soccer Scene, Goal! Weekly will be giving away a Patrick soccer ball each week to the first correct entry of the Soccer Scene "Question of the Week."

This week's question is:  
Which Chilean club did the Young Soccerroos play in their opening match on their South American tour?

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# WOMEN'S PREMIER LEAGUE

Round 20



## SANDY STILL IN WITH A CHANCE



Eltham's Christie Tangalos gets the ball away from Heidelberg's Emma Minde.

No change in the top five as the race for the finals continues in the Vodafone WPL, as all five clubs emerged victorious from Round 20. Sandringham kept its hopes of making the finals alive with a victory, while defeat for Bendigo could have ended its chances of featuring in September action.

Box Hill Inter took on Brimbank on Friday night in a game that was always likely to prove a mismatch, given the two sides' positions at opposing ends of the table. Inter had opened up a two-goal lead by half time, but it really asserted its authority in the second half, scoring a further seven times without reply to record a comfortable win. However, Ashburton's victory later

in the weekend means that Inter has to be content to remain in second position for the moment, still a point adrift of the league leader.

Currently in sixth place, and two points outside the top five, all Sandringham can do is keep winning and hope that those above it falter. It did just that on Saturday at Bob Jane Stadium, at the expense of home side, South Melbourne. The result hung in the balance at half time, with Sandringham narrowly ahead by two goals to one, but the visitor proved much the stronger in the second half to take all three points with a 6-1 victory. The result ensures Sandringham holds on to fifth place on the ladder. For South, the defeat is another blow to

its hopes of avoiding relegation, and it remains in the drop zone, a point behind Eltham North.

Cranbourne produced its second biggest win of the season in a timely manner to help shore up its hold on fourth place, with a six goal defeat of Preston Lions. Three goals in each half secured the points for the Comets, with Preston unable to find the net in reply. Cranbourne has three matches to go, facing bottom side Brimbank, and fellow finals aspirants Keilor and Sandringham, leaving it very much in charge of its own destiny with regards to making the finals. Preston remains ninth on the ladder, and is unable to finish any higher.

Keilor Park continues to occupy the position above Sandringham, maintaining its two point advantage over its finals rival courtesy of its tenth victory of the season. It saw off Eastern Lions by five goals to one to move onto 34 points, still three adrift of Cranbourne above it, but crucially with two games in hand over Sandringham below it. It was a second successive heavy home defeat for Eastern Lions, leaving it ninth on the ladder.

Heidelberg United recorded a seven-goal haul for the second time in as many weeks, while Eltham North was on the receiving end of seven goals for a second consecutive week when the two sides met at Darebin International Sports Centre on Sunday. It was a comparatively quiet first half, with United scoring twice, but the floodgates opened after the interval, as Heidelberg added a further five, with Eltham managing one in reply. Heidelberg continues to occupy third position on the ladder, three points behind Inter, while Eltham remains a point above the relegation zone in tenth.

Ashburton hung on to top spot on the ladder and put a significant dent in Bendigo's chances of featuring in the finals with a 3-1 victory over the Vipers at Ashburton Park on Sunday. The triumph, Ashburton's seventeenth of a strong season, keeps it one point ahead of Box Hill, but having played a game more. The defeat could have more far reaching consequences for Bendigo, as it leaves it a full three points outside of the top five, with tricky matches against Heidelberg and Keilor still to play. Bendigo can still make the finals, but must really hope that some of the teams around it now slip up as well.

Nest weekend is a scheduled catch up round for the WPL, but the number of postponed games means that it features almost a full fixture of matches. The action begins on Thursday evening when Eltham North takes on Sandringham at DISC, with Eltham backing up to play at Sunday as well, when it faces Eastern Lions at Gardiners Creek Reserve. Also on Sunday, Keilor Park plays Bendigo Vipers at Keilor Park Reserve and a big match at the top of the ladder, featuring Heidelberg United and Box Hill Inter at DISC.

By Niki Cook  
Photos by John Punshon

### CATCH-UP ROUND FIXTURES

Round 16  
Eltham North  
v  
Sandringham  
Darebin International  
Sports Centre  
Thursday 10th August  
KO 8PM

Round 2  
Keilor Park  
v  
Bendigo Vipers  
Keilor Park Reserve  
Sunday 13th August  
KO 1PM

Round 3  
Heidelberg United  
v  
Box Hill Inter  
Darebin International  
Sports Centre  
Sunday 13th August  
KO 1PM

Round 17  
Eastern Lions  
v  
Eltham North  
Gardiners Creek Reserve  
Sunday 13th August  
KO 1PM

Round 17  
Preston Lions  
v  
Keilor Park  
Darebin International  
Sports Centre  
Tuesday 15th August  
7:30PM

### Women's Premier League SENIORS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P	T
Ashburton	20	17	2	1	84	12	53	
Box Hill Inter	19	17	1	1	68	7	52	
Heidelberg United	19	16	1	2	82	17	49	
Cranbourne Comets WSC	19	10	4	5	45	17	34	
Keilor Park WSC	17	10	1	6	58	38	31	
Sandringham	19	8	5	6	34	22	29	
Bendigo Vipers WSC	19	9	1	9	38	32	28	
Preston Lions	19	5	1	13	16	58	16	
Eastern Lions	19	4	3	12	15	39	15	
Eltham North	18	3	2	13	13	55	11	
South Melbourne	20	3	1	16	23	77	10	
Brimbank WSC	20	0	2	18	7	109	2	

Box Hill Inter 9 (K McClusky, C Romano, A Vardakas 2, J Humble, C Baxendale 2, S Kuraray, K Smith)  
Brimbank 0 (HT: 2-0).

South Melbourne 1 (L Hodgkin)  
Sandringham 6 (E Avram 2, A Good, R Pezzano, K Segond) (HT: 1-2).

Cranbourne Comets 6 (B Powell, S Fitzgerald 4, Own Goal)  
Preston Lions 0 (HT: 3-0).

Keilor Park 5 (M Camilleri, K Nicolaci, T Balint, E Barilla, Own Goal)  
Eastern Lions 1 (HT: 2-0).

Heidelberg United 7 (H Alatsas, M Frankcombe 2, S Groenewald 2, B Pannella 2)  
Eltham North 1 (L Greco) (HT: 2-0).

Ashburton 3 (S Erenli 2, G Koca)  
Bendigo Vipers 1 (K Molier) (HT: 2-1)

### Women's Premier League Reservers

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P	T
Ashburton	20	19	1	0	113	11	58	
Sandringham	20	17	0	3	94	15	51	
Cranbourne Comets WSC	20	14	1	5	43	20	43	
Bendigo Vipers WSC	19	13	1	5	62	22	40	
Keilor Park WSC	19	9	3	7	53	32	30	
Box Hill Inter	19	9	2	8	53	28	29	
Heidelberg United	19	7	4	8	36	34	25	
Eltham North	20	6	6	8	40	40	24	
Eastern Lions	20	6	4	10	26	40	22	
South Melbourne	20	2	4	14	30	60	10	
Preston Lions	20	1	4	15	13	82	7	
Brimbank WSC	20	0	0	20	21	81	0	

Box Hill Inter 14  
Brimbank 0.

South Melbourne 3  
Sandringham 5.

Cranbourne Comets 2  
Preston Lions 0.

Keilor Park 3  
Eastern Lions 1.

Heidelberg United 3  
Eltham North 0.

Ashburton 3  
Bendigo Vipers 0



## Zlatan Threatens To Sue

**TURIN, Aug 4-** Zlatan Ibrahimovic's desire to leave Juventus is so strong that his agent has not ruled out the possibility of legal proceedings.

"It is evident that Zlatan wants to leave Juventus and I hope the club takes note of this," said agent Mino Raiola.

"Our stance is clear and we are looking for a way out with the club's blessing, but we are ready to consider legal action if that is not the case."

With Juve stuck in Serie B, Raiola has done little to deny the interest from both the blue and red halves of Milan by declaring that his client does not wish to leave Italy.

"Ibra is not tired of Italy and would like to achieve a bit more here."

Juve manager Didier Deschamps has already declared that the Swede will play in a pre-season friendly this Friday and is still taking the approach that their will be no more sales from the Bianconeri.

"It will be his first game for the new Juventus," explained Deschamps.

"His future? His agent can say what he wants, I have no time to waste."

## Ribery looking to transfer

**MARSEILLE, Aug 5-** Marseille and France winger Franck Ribery has confirmed his wishes to leave the Ligue 1 side.

"I wish to leave because I want to win other things," admitted Ribery.

"I want to play in the Champions League. I am only 23 and I want to move on to other things."

"Marseille's directors know where I want to go. My choice is made and I will not turn back."

Club President Pape Diouf has immediately hit out at the comments and reaffirmed his club's position.

"We disapprove totally with the method used by Franck Ribery this evening."

"The improved contract he signed in March ties him to Marseille."

"Each camp must assume its share of responsibility. He won't be able to sign for another club without our accord."

Ribery has been linked with moves to Lyon, Arsenal and Manchester United, with Marseille's Ligue 1 rivals favourite for his signature.

## Rooney Risks A Ban

**AMSTERDAM, Aug 5-** England 'Bad Boy' Wayne Rooney, playing for his club Manchester United, could miss the first three matches of the English Premier League after he was sent off on Friday night against FC Porto in Amsterdam.

Rooney's fate depends on whether Dutch referee Ruud Boonen includes the incident in his match report and the Dutch Football Association then forwards it onto the English Football Association.

Rooney has not had the best of times against Portuguese opposition of late. He received a much publicised red card in the World Cup quarter final encounter against Portugal. The 20-year-old was shown a red card on Friday in the 42nd minute in the first match of the LG Amsterdam Tournament for a challenge on defender Pepe Ferreira.

In a statement after the match Rooney said he thought that the referee was going to give a free kick and not a red card. He had felt that Ferreira had backed in to him. Television evidence of the incident tends to suggest that the Manchester United forward may have been hard done by.

Not short of anything to say, United's manager Sir Alex Ferguson said that he thought that the referee had reacted in such a way because his reputation has preceded him. He added that Ferreira had made a meal of the incident, something that has now become endemic in the game.

If Rooney gets the three-match ban, he would miss league games against Fulham, Charlton and Watford. Paul Scholes was also dismissed from the match after getting a second yellow card in the 68th and would also face the same ban should Boonen include the incident in the match report.



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# Why Van Nistelrooy Had To Go

**MANCHESTER, Aug 4-** Manchester United boss Sir Alex Ferguson has explained why prolific front man Ruud van Nistelrooy had to leave Old Trafford.

Despite scoring 150 goals in 219 appearances for United, van Nistelrooy was sold to Real Madrid, signing a three-year contract with the Spanish giants last Friday.

The move came to pass after van Nistelrooy was dropped for the Carling Cup final last February and then struggled to regain his first-team place, leading the Dutchman, so Ferguson, to react negatively.

"It's how they react and adapt to being left out that counts," Ferguson said.

"Ruud was different in that way and so that's what happened."

The break in the relationship and the move to sell the 30-year-old van Nistelrooy came hard to Ferguson.

"The difficulty with footballers today is the satisfaction you have to give them in terms of picking the team," he said.

"So every time you pick a team there are two or three players you're hesitant about telling they are not playing."

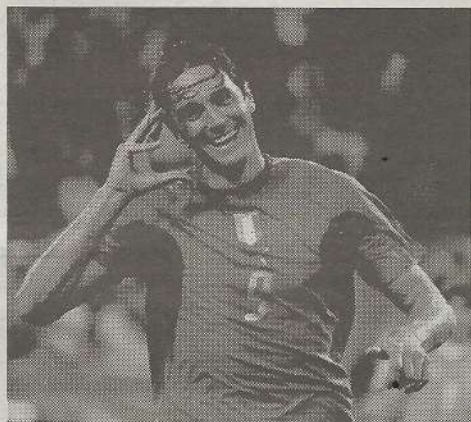
"Maybe they are big players or have been a big player for you in the past. Or maybe you have a special relationship with them."



"You hope they will agree with reasons for leaving them out but sometimes a player doesn't and I can understand that."

Ruud van Nistelrooy's problem with getting left out prompted United manager Alex Ferguson to get rid of him

## Toni Wants To Leave



**FLORENCE, Aug 4-** The words, 'I want to leave,' words that every Fiorentina fan had been dreading to hear, have been reiterated by star striker Luca Toni.

Although not making any direct comment in such exact wording, it does not take a genius to realise that the Tuscan striker is keen to start the season afresh in new surroundings.

The 29-year-old World Cup winner has spoken of his desire to challenge for a league crown and also the UEFA Champions League, and has admitted that there is no such possibility in doing so by staying with La Viola.

"I want to make the most of the opportunities I am given and win something big," said Toni.

"I have had interest not only from Inter, but also from Spain and England."

"I want to win the league title and Champions League, but if I stay here for the next three to four years, I won't be able to."

When asked if he had confronted club owner Diego Della Valle over his wishes, the striker revealed that the chairman had not met with him.

"Della Valle doesn't want to hear from me, but why? He doesn't want to meet me and it saddens me."

"I am not going to escape and, if they demand that I stay, I will try to give it my best for the team, but it is obvious that in the circumstances, I cannot have a good relationship with the club."

## Internacional Book Finals Spot

**PORTO ALEGRE, Aug 4-** Brazilian side Internacional booked their spot in the 2006 Copa Libertadores final after beating Libertad of Paraguay 2-0 on the night and on aggregate.

The first leg lacked a goal, but Internacional nearly pulled one off in the fourth minute as Fernandão centered from the right to strike partner Rafael Sóbis, but goalkeeper Horacio González was equal to the task and pushed it away.

After that, the match settled into a ball possession game with very few scoring opportunities, less than the teams managed to produce in the scoreless first leg of play.

There was an entertaining moment in the 33rd minute as Internacional sparked a beautiful, flowing move up the middle with Fabinho gliding the ball forward into the area, but González saved before Fernandão could get there.

The first half came to a close with Libertad pressing in the Internacional area, but nothing came of the opportunity and the players were forced to regroup at the break.

After the interval, Internacional came out with enormous pressure, but Libertad enjoyed a spell of about five minutes of constant pressure on the Internacional goal, but that came to an abrupt end in the 63rd minute.

Seemingly from out of nowhere, Internacional midfielder Alex let loose a shot from over 30 yards out that bounced once hard, and after González mis-



judged it, the ball went inside the left post for the breakthrough.

The Brazilians added to that lead five minutes later when Fernandão, too, struck from long distance and the ball again eluded González who was screened away from the shot by a defender whom the ball deflected off of before going in.

The result sets up the second all-Brazilian final in two years in the Libertadores final, with the first leg set for next Wednesday.

## Brazil Rife With Kidnappings

**BRASILIA, Aug 4-** Since November 2004 there have been six Brazilian football mothers who have been kidnapped and then released.

The sixth and latest mother to have been kidnapped and then released was Noemia de Carvalho Correa, mother of Santos defender Kleber. This happened on Wednesday. She was freed by the police in Sao Paulo two hours after her ordeal had begun.

The police in Sao Paulo freed Noemia when they became suspicious of two men in a car. A car short chase ensued. The men fled leaving the mother in the car where she had been tied up.

As yet no arrests have been made.

The first mother to have been kidnapped was the mother of Real Madrid's striker Robinho, who was in those days a Santos player.

Since then, Sevilla striker Luis Fabiano, former Sporting Lisbon defender Rogerio, Le Mans striker Grafite and Corinthians defender Marinho also had

their mothers kidnapped and released.

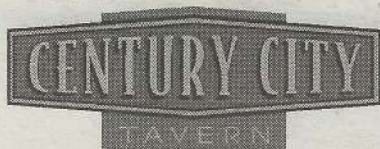
The 26-year-old Kleber previously played for Swiss club FC Basel and Germany's Hannover.

He played for the Brazilian national team, and helped Corinthians win national titles in 1998 and 1999. He has scored a goal in 53 matches since signing with Santos.



Brazilian star Robinho's mother was kidnapped

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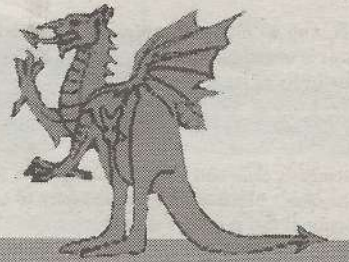
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# Succeroo

## a pom's home view



'Sleeping giant' or 'an old man having a nap'? Aston Villa is again being talked up as a big club re-emerging. Massive support, player potential and rich rewards await a new successful manager. However, since the golden era of the early 80s, the closest Villa has got to a cup final recently is the ground staging the FA Cup semi-finals. They are a vast distance behind the top four of Chelsea, Man United, Arsenal and Liverpool and were lucky not to have been relegated from the Premiership last year with only 42 points...

However, every Villa fan will be cheering for joy this weekend, as a new dawn is awaking. One of the most popular managers in Britain, Martin O'Neill, has just been unveiled as their new manager. O'Neill's popularity has seen him linked to almost every vacant managerial position in England including the England national team. He's even been linked to non-vacant positions such as replacing Sir Alex at Manchester United. O'Neill has players respect and has an excellent track record at club level. The former Northern Ireland midfielder has previously managed Wycombe, then Leicester City, who he guided to four successive top-ten Premiership finishes and three League Cup finals, of which he won two, and then Celtic, where he won the Scottish Premier League three times in five years and also took the club to a UEFA Cup final. While the Villa fans rejoice the rest of the football community are in shock, why would O'Neill



Aston Villa and Doug Ellis - 'Sleeping giant' or 'an old man having a nap'?

wish to take the poisoned chalice of managing the Birmingham side? Previous managers; Brian Little, John Gregory, Graham Taylor and David O'Leary have all failed to revive the 'sleeping giant'. O'Leary parted company with the club a

few weeks ago, allegedly by 'mutual consent'. With the crowd declaring, "We're not fickle, we just don't like you!" and then the players finally turning on him with a vote of no confidence, he finally gave in and fled. Like all the previous

managers, O'Leary had been initially seduced by the size and tradition of the club, but soon realised that the Chairman Doug Ellis was not only 'an old man having a nap', but also 'an very old ill man' incapable of taking a risk for the good of the club. His infamous statement that the only way he would ever be leaving the place was feet first, summed up his arrogance and insularity. Fortunately for Villa and for O'Neill, Ellis' days may finally be numbered, and he may actually reluctantly leave. Aston Villa has been up for sale estimated at £64m for almost a year and presently there are four consortia interested in purchasing the club and ousting Ellis. One of them will surely find the appropriate formula to persuade a man who owns 39% of the shares to step down and authorise a new dawn at the club off the pitch.

Whether it is pounds or dollars that fund the club, it desperately needs fresh blood. O'Neill is the first stage of the blood transfusion. Ellis has let Villa sleepwalk towards mediocrity for too long. While O'Neill's is not the kind of person who needs to wave a chequebook about too often, he understands the history of his predecessors and must know some inside information and surely must expect a takeover to go through within the next few weeks. Whereby funds of up to £20m will become available and a 'Villainous' giant may finally emerge.

By Richard Sucksmith

## OVERSEAS TRANSFER GOSSIP with George Egonidis

After Michael Carrick's big money move to Manchester was finally confirmed this week, it's no surprise that much of the speculation since then has centred on how Tottenham boss Martin Jol plans to spend his £18.6m windfall.

Keen to strengthen his defence – moreso since the pre-season injury to England international Ledley King – Jol is tracking Wigan's Pascal Chimbona, Chelsea's Wayne Bridge and Blackburn's Lucas Neill. Current Spurs outcasts Danny Murphy and Andy Reid have been offered as makeweights to secure Chimbona's arrival, but should that fall through Bolton is said to be keen on a £2m move for Murphy while Championship hopefuls Leeds would offer the same for Reid. Any deal for Bridge would depend on Chelsea securing Ashley Cole in the next few weeks, with Spurs reportedly willing to meet the Blues' £4m asking price.

Over at Newcastle, Glenn Roeder has been given £15m to spend on Real Madrid's Thomas Gravesen and Jonathan Woodgate, plus a new striker. Michael Owen is said to have personally contacted the Mad Dane, who would cost the Magpies almost £3m, to extol the virtues of a move to Tyne-side.

Roeder's search for a striker, however, is proving more difficult. Newcastle is one of several clubs – Manchester United, Tottenham and Liverpool are the others – still keen on Feyenoord's £12m-rated World Cup flop Dirk Kuyt. Meanwhile, some websites were reporting Roeder's interest in Everton's James Beattie, and links to £7m-rated Empoli striker Francesco Tavana. But any interest in the Italian was quickly knocked on the head when Roeder commented, "I don't even

know him."

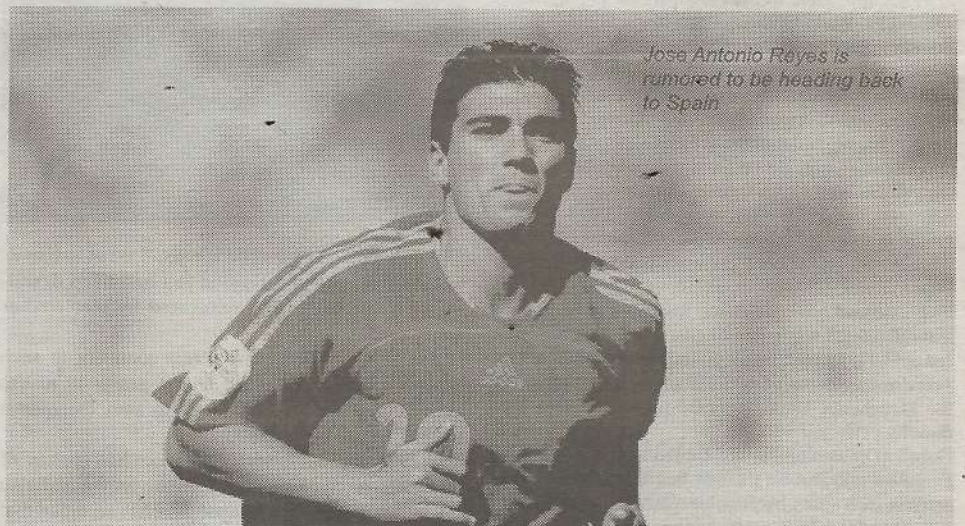
Across the Channel, and Lyon star Mahamadou Diarra looks set to complete a move to Real Madrid in the next few days. Diarra, who was also a summer target for Sir Alex Ferguson, will cost Real up to £20m, and could be the first of two big name signings for the Spanish giants this week, with rumours linking Jose Antonio Reyes with a move back to his homeland continuing to gain momentum.

Diarra's switch could pave the way for Lyon to sign exciting French midfielder Franck Ribery. Ribery this week announced his desire to quit Marseille, and is expected to announce in the coming days a desire to join the current French champions.

And it wouldn't be a transfer gossip column without some news from Portsmouth, where Harry Redknapp's quest to rebuild seems like a lot of talk for not much action at the moment. Despite being linked with big name captures all summer long, you have to go back to June for Pompey's only serious piece of off-season business – the signing of Glen Johnson from Chelsea. So, for what it's worth, a £2m move for Manchester City's David James is on the cards soon, as is a move for Ghana captain Stephen Appiah. And Redknapp has apparently ended his chase for Blackburn defender Ryan Nelsen after Rovers rejected his final bid of £4.7m.

### And in brief...

- Shaun Wright-Phillips can leave Chelsea for £12m – a £9m loss on the player signed last summer.
- Valencia has launched a £12m bid for Manchester United's want-away winger Cristiano Ronaldo.



Jose Antonio Reyes is rumored to be heading back to Spain

- Blackburn will sign Robert Huth if Middlesbrough continues to stall over Chelsea's asking price.
- Blackburn midfielder Brett Emerton looks set to join Middlesbrough.
- Wigan is set to try to sign Nathan Ellington from West Brom – a year after selling him for £3m.
- Chelsea has leapt to the front of the queue to sign Atletico Madrid striker Fernando Torres.
- Tottenham will make a surprise bid to re-sign Mido from Roma.
- Manchester City is close to signing Ajax full-back Hatem Trabelsi.
- New Aston Villa boss Martin O'Neill is to return to Celtic to bid for Stilian Petrov.

### Confirmed transfers this week:

- Michael Carrick [Tottenham – Manchester United] £18.6m
- Patrick Vieira [Juventus – Internazionale] £6.5m
- Radhi Jaidi [Bolton – Birmingham] £2m
- Brad Jones [Middlesbrough – Sheffield Wednesday] Loan
- Mario Melchiot [Birmingham – Rennes] Free
- Kevin Campbell [WBA – Cardiff] Free
- Jamie Clapham [Birmingham – Wolves]
- Willo Flood [Man City – Cardiff] Undisclosed
- Danny Higginbotham [Southampton – Stoke] £225,000
- Emmerson Boyce [Crystal Palace – Wigan] £1m
- Victor [Deportiva La Coruna – Panathinaikos] Free
- Gerard Pique [Manchester United – Real Zaragoza] Loan

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# The Only Way Is Up

-What we can learn from Scottish football-

**If anyone needs evidence of why we should invest in youth development programs, a study on the demise of Scotland's international team will provide the justification.**

A question I often ask people is whether they can name a current world class Scottish player? After a few hums people usually give up and that is when I ask if they can name a previous World Class Scottish player, Ahh! Dalglish, Souness, Jordan, Gemmill, Law, Baxter and maybe a few more.

What happened then is that in a relatively short time a country which has played in six World Cup finals is now rated in the bottom half of FIFA's top 100 list. To place the blame on one factor is an emotional reaction to a far more complicated process and series of events.

Scottish football always provided players for the English leagues since the game's beginning as an organised sport. Indeed the road south guaranteed a larger market than the local home land leagues offered. Add to this the Glasgow giant's high profile standing in the British pecking order of big clubs and Scotland's youth had more choices than other less fortunate young players

"Suddenly young Scottish players had nowhere to go even in the 2nd division, players from Finland, Denmark, Belgium, Ireland and dare I say it Australia, were plying their trade."

in other parts of the UK.

Any top ranking English club had a third of their squad born north of the border. This volume of players playing in a high standard of competition with good players and weekly challenges ensured that when national selection came around a squad of in form professionals could be called upon to take on the rest of the world. An extra advantage of these clubs was the regular forays into UEFA Championship competitions where many other international players where on the opposition side and occasionally on the same side.

So an abundance of players playing in high standard competition with other good players amounts to facing your more infamous opposition such as England, Holland, Germany and the former Czechoslovakia on an even ranking. I say this because Scotland has defeated these opponents in regular encounters on many occasions.

But times and circumstances changed in the late eighties and early nineties with political changes in the iron block countries allowed freedom of travel. The European Union meant that visas and work permits were easier to access than before.

This now meant that continental players were avail-



Fresh hope: Scotland's Andy Webster celebrates after scoring against the USA last November

able in abundance for the big English clubs, many of them internationals in their own countries. These players were also of equal or higher quality status than their Scottish counterparts and also in many circumstances cheaper to contract. The demand for Scots lessened and the natural option was for the door of the old firm, however Rangers and Celtic were competing in the Champions league and with the need to attract the cable TV dollar meant they also began recruiting overseas. Under its new manager Graham Souness, Rangers were reversing the call and signing up many English Internationals with the lure of higher wages than English clubs.

Rangers' success in this period justified more of the same, Celtic having to keep up with their across town neighbours followed suit. The snowball effect con-

tinued with all the smaller clubs signing second or some might say third rate foreign players to maintain the challenge. Suddenly young Scottish players had nowhere to go, opportunities were less forthcoming and even in the 2nd division, players from Finland, Denmark, Belgium, Ireland and dare I say it Australia, were plying their trade.

The result of all this foreign inclusion was a more entertaining Premier League and a massive reduction in player registration in the junior ranks. Domestically Rangers and Celtic dominated but in Europe they were dictated by a higher level of more clinical and intense football competition and thus saw no reason to jeopardise their standing by giving young Scot's a chance. All this had a dire impact on the national team and desperate games against ordinary opponents meant the

UEFA Nations Cup qualification was a thing of the past and the World Cup now a nostalgic memory.

The predictability of the domestic competition has created a two-team dominance with the rest making up the numbers. Rangers and Celtic are caught in the inevitable marketing of their product to the media monster of live football on cable TV. The income needed to

To its credit Rangers have built and invested in an Academy Program as strong as most of its European counterparts.

survive suggests large financial budgets for operations beyond the first eleven are calculated with ruthless foresight and a cut 'our losses mentality'. Only in the last two years or so has the machine been interrupted and paused with a 'what if we produce our own' idea. To its credit Rangers have built and invested in an Academy Program as strong as most of its European counterparts. It has recently been playing some of their products in first team line ups with a valid performance in consistency with their more experienced team mates.

Celtic on the other hand are still in planning mode about where and when they will start theirs. Clearly, financial constraint is the main consideration here. One word of caution here - both teams have young players from other parts of the world in their Academy programs.

The Scottish National body the SFA have now acted on the problem and are appointing regional officers on a full time basis to oversee the various regions of Scotland with development programs and coaching clinics. Is it a case of too little too late? Only time will tell. One bright note is the Scottish national U19s team lost in the final of the Euro U20 Nations Cup last week.

If youth development time frames are anything to go by we can expect Scotland to qualify for the World Cup in 2014 providing our players go abroad and play in the bigger European leagues. This will bring us back full circle to when Law, Jordan, Collins, Lambert etc played in the Italian, German and French leagues.

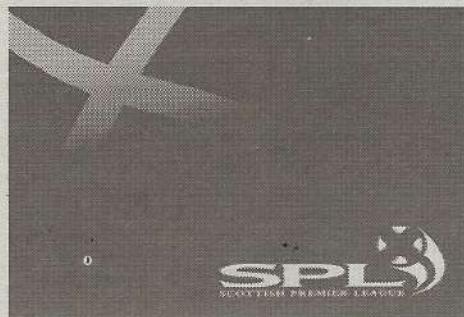
The great Scottish support the Tartan Army and deserve something to sing about other than the Wembley invasion of '77', the second Bannock burn. If only we had a striker like William Wallace.

Until the next time.

Harry Bingham.

Harry is the Coaching and Development Manager at Football Federation Victoria and obviously Scottish.

## TARTAN TALK with Nic Townsend



The season is only a fortnight old, and already the dreaded 'S' word has surfaced: Sectarianism. Unfortunately it's synonymous with Scottish football.

This week Rangers' owner David Murray launched yet another anti-sectarianism campaign, supposedly the strongest yet. And how does Murray plan to end a centuries old conflict steeped in hatred and violence? By presenting fans with the 'Wee Blue Book', a pamphlet of lyrics for 11 inoffensive songs. 'Billy's Boys', the club anthem with the infamous line 'We're up to our knees in Fenian blood', isn't one of them. Not to be outdone by their rivals, Celtic chairman Brian Quinn also publicly urged fans to refrain from sectarian chants this season.

But before people get too excited, and start nominating Quinn and Murray for Nobel Peace prizes, let's first look at their less-than-noble motives. It's no coincidence that these pleas were made in the same week that UEFA announced they would be cracking down on racism and discrimination. Rangers have already been fined by UEFA this year, after fans sang 'Billy's Boys' against Villarreal. This season such chants will attract a minimum £13,000 fine. They could also result in stadium closures, and expulsion from European competitions. Sectarianism could potentially be very

costly for these two debt-ridden clubs.

To be fair, David Murray has consistently spoken out against sectarianism ever since he bought Rangers in 1988. It was under his ownership that Rangers finally abolished their Protestants-only policy, and signed their first-ever Catholic player, Maurice Johnston. The club has since signed countless Catholics, including their new manager Paul Le Guen.

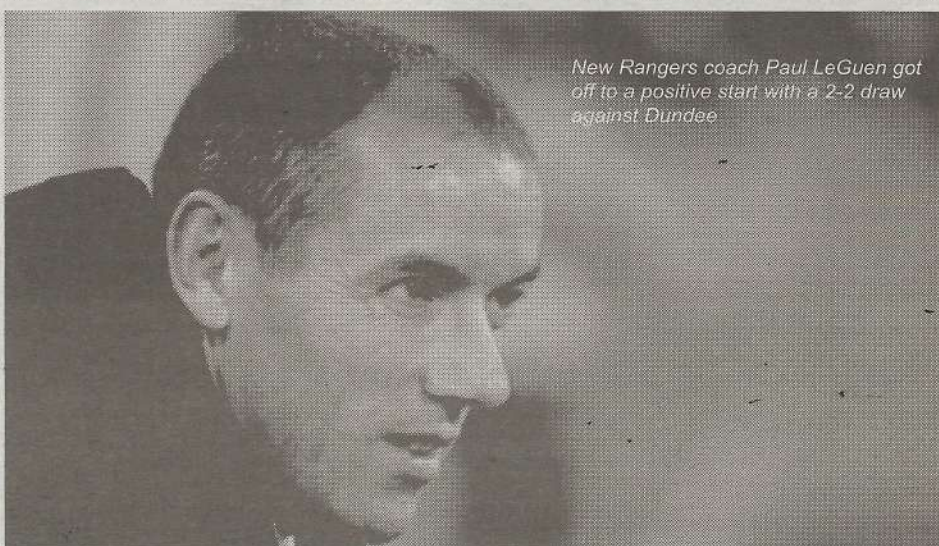
But again the motives have been financial. Murray's ambition has always been to see Rangers become one of Europe's elite clubs. But to that, he needs to expand the club's appeal beyond Scotland and Northern Ireland. Bigotry lacks broader appeal, and as an astute businessman, Murray knew he'd never fulfil his vision as long as Rangers were associated with religious hatred.

Celtic have also spent recent years building themselves into a global brand. This week, they were promoting themselves in Japan, with an exhibition match against Yokohama Marinos. When it comes to football most Japanese don't really care what happened on 12th July 1690.

Celtic and Rangers' efforts don't stem from trying to end a long-standing divide that has ruined so many people's lives. They're trying to make money.

And there is still a strong argument to be made that neither club has done all they can to stamp sectarianism out completely. Walk into any Rangers shop in Scotland, and you can buy a range of merchandise clad in the Union Jack. Likewise, many Celtic products include the Irish tri-colour, and other Irish-Catholic symbols. Before matches, both clubs play songs over their PA which appeal to sectarian sentiments.

Both clubs have profited from the sectarian divide. Fans are attracted to these clubs, and follow them with such dedication because each represents more than just a football club. They owe their strength and promi-



New Rangers coach Paul Le Guen got off to a positive start with a 2-2 draw against Dundee

nence to their fans' hatred of one another. In short, they both need one another, and would lesser clubs without this rivalry. The Old Firm without the politics, religion and history, would just be another football match.

Thus both clubs are walking a delicate tightrope, between the global market place, and their traditional heartlands. They know they need to eradicate bigotry if their to attract sponsors and build a global following, but also know they can't alienate too many of their traditional supporters.

But what ever happens, I can guarantee you haven't heard 'Billy's Boys' for the last time at Ibrox. Gers fans will sing it with even more zest, in defiance of what they'll see as an attack on their beliefs and traditions. And a 'Wee Blue Book' won't stop them.

Ayway, sectarianism can't hide the fact that some actual football was played this week. In Champions League Hearts held out for a 0-0 draw against Siroki Brijeg in Bosnia last Wednesday. They'll now play AEK Athens in the third qualifying round.

In the SPL, Rangers needed an own goal to come back from 2-0, to draw against Dundee United. Kilmarnock also came from behind to beat Hibs 2-1, despite being outplayed for most of the match. Inverness CT levelled against Aberdeen in the 89th minute, for a 1-1 draw. And both St. Mirren and Falkirk are making a mockery of my preseason preview published last week. The Saints defeated Motherwell 2-0, and Falkirk beat Dunfermline 1-0.





# JUNIOR LEAGUES



**MILO Boys S/E 16 Super League:** Round 15: South Melbourne 1 Knox City 2, Bentleigh Greens 1 Southern Stars 3, Glen Waverley 0 South Eastern Piranhas 2, Whitehorse 1 Bulleen 3, Oakleigh 0 Doncaster Rovers JSC 1

**MILO Boys S/E 15 Super League:** Round 15: Kingston City Bye, South Melbourne 2 Box Hill Inter 1, Gippsland Soccer League 1 Noble Park 0, Beaumaris 1 Doncaster Rovers JSC 0, Whitehorse 1 Bulleen 1

**MILO Boys S/E 14 Super League:** Round 15: South Melbourne 2 Knox City 0, Chelsea 0 Doncaster Rovers JSC, Manningham 2 Box Hill Inter 1, Whitehorse 1 Bulleen 1, Beaumaris 2 Endeavour Utd 1

**MILO Boys S/E 13 Super League:** Round 15: Mornington 0 Box Hill Inter 1, Knox City 2 Dandenong City 1, Nunawading City 9 Baxter 0, Gippsland Soccer League 0 Bulleen 1, Beaumaris 0 Monash City 4

**MILO Boys N/W 16 Super League:** Round 15: Hoppers Crossing Bye, Brimbank 3 North City Lions 1, Sydenham Park 1 Melbourne Knights 2, Whittlesea Stallions 1 Green Gully 1, Essendon Royals 5 Preston Lions 0

**MILO Boys N/W 15 Super League:** Round 15: Brimbank Bye, Moreland United 0 Fawkner 5, Epping City Keilor Park, Melbourne Knights 0 Green Gully 2, Essendon Royals 3 Altona East 1

**MILO Boys N/W 14 Super League:** Round 15: Fawkner 3 Williamstown 0, Brimbank 1 North Coburg Utd 4, Melbourne Knights 0 Keilor Park 1, Preston Lions 0 Green Gully 2, Albion-Wodonga 3 Bendigo Amateur Soccer League 1

**MILO Boys N/W 13 Super League:** Round 15: Fawkner 1 Hoppers Crossing JSC 1, Altona Magic 1 Preston Lions 1, Epping City 0 Keilor Park 2, Melbourne Knights 1 Green Gully 1, Essendon Royals 8 Bundoora 2

**MILO Boys Metro 18 Blue:** Round 15: Brunswick City 5 Green Gully 2, Bulleen 1 Port Melbourne JSC 4, Doncaster Rovers JSC 2 Oakleigh 3

**MILO Boys Metro 18 Orange:** Round 15: Springvale City 2 Langwarrin 7, Sherbrooke Rangers Bye, Seaford United JSC 3 Glen Waverley 3, Mooroolbark 8 Rosebud 0, Mornington Brighton JSC

**MILO Boys Metro 18 Purple:** Round 15: Gisborne Bye, Northcote City Bye, Preston Lions 0 Essendon Royals 3, Bundoora 3 St Albans 1, Keilor Park 3 Brimbank 2

**MILO Boys Metro 18 Yellow:** Round 15: Bye Westvale, Mornington Glen Eira, Brighton JSC 3 Brandon Park 1, Berwick Kings 1 Berwick City 1, Eastern Lions Bye

**MILO Boys South 16 A:** Round 15: Berwick City 1 Doveton 4, Bentleigh Greens 3 Dandenong City 0, Brighton JSC 2 Sandringham City 2, Baxter 0 Springvale City 2, Beaumaris 7 Langwarrin 0

**MILO Boys South 16 B:** Round 15: Peninsula Bye, Doveton 5 Carrum Utd 2, Chelsea 1 Beaumaris 1, Rowville Eagles 5 Sandringham City A 1, Sandringham City B 2 Dandenong Sparrows 1

**MILO Boys South 15 A:** Round 15: Langwarrin 0 Dandenong Thunder 1, Springvale White Eagles Seaford Utd, Berwick City 3 Sandringham City 2, Mornington 3 Brighton JSC 1, Cranbourne Comets 3 Hampton Park Utd 1

**MILO Boys South 15 B:** Round 15: Endeavour United Rosebud, Bentleigh Greens 4 Beaumaris 1, Brighton JSC 2 Baxter 4, Berwick City 8 Mornington A 2, Dandenong City 4 Langwarrin 0

**MILO Boys South 14 A:** Round 15: Langwarrin Berwick City, Springvale White Eagles 7 Beaumaris 0, Mornington 4 Sandringham City 2, Baxter 0 Brighton 11, Lyndale Utd 3 Hampton Park Utd 4

**MILO Boys South 14 B:** Round 15: Frankston Pines 4, Mornington 0, Cranbourne Comets 2 Dandenong City 2, Brighton JSC 14 Sandringham City 0, White Star Dandenong 0 Peninsula 8, Bye Langwarrin

**MILO Boys South 13 A:** Round 15: Langwarrin 1 Berwick City 0, Bentleigh Greens 3 Frankston Pines 1, Doveton 2 Dandenong Thunder 5, Endeavour Utd 0 Brighton JSC 4, Mornington 3 Hampton Park Utd 0

**MILO Boys South 13 B:** Round 15: Beaumaris 5 Carrum Utd 0, Berwick City 3 East Bentleigh 0, Phillip Island 1 Sandringham City 6, Seaford Utd Brighton JSC, Lyndale Utd 5 Hampton Park Utd 0

**MILO Boys South 13 C:** Round 15: Springvale White Eagles Bye, Seaford Utd 4 Berwick City 0, Brighton 0 Sandringham City 1, Baxter 1 Cranbourne Comets 2, Beaumaris 5 Langwarrin 4

**MILO Boys South 12 A:** Round 15: Langwarrin 0 Berwick City 13, Bentleigh Greens 1 Dandenong City 5, Brighton JSC 1 Sandringham City 1, Mornington 0 Peninsula 0, Beaumaris 3 Hampton Park Utd 1

**MILO Boys South 12 B:** Round 15: Beaumaris Bye, Mornington 1 Hampton 1, Chelsea Seaford Utd, Berwick City 0 Sandringham City 0, Cranbourne Comets 0 Brighton 0

**MILO Boys South 12 C:** Round 15: Rosebud Bye, Seaford Utd Baxter, Sandringham City 1 Brighton JSC 1, Mornington 5 Langwarrin 0

**MILO Boys South 12 D:** Round 15: Bentleigh Greens Bye, Keysborough JSC 1 Bye 0, Peninsula 1 Hampton 0, Endeavour Hills 0 Casey Panthers 1, Lyndale Utd 2 Hartsfield Hurricanes 14

**MILO Boys South 11 Kangaroos Green:** Round 15: Cranbourne Comets Bye, Berwick City 1 Dandenong City 1, Mornington 3 Sandringham City 0, Heatherton Utd 1 Brighton 5, Beaumaris 9 Hampton 0

**MILO Boys South 11 Kangaroos Purple:** Round 15: Noble Park Bye, Mornington 2 Rosebud 2, Seaford Utd 3 Peninsula 0, Sandringham City 2 Dandenong Thunder 0, Springvale White Eagles Langwarrin

**MILO Boys South 11 Jokeys Blue:** Round 15: Beaumaris Bye, Doveton 7 Carrum Utd 0, Berwick City 7 Dandenong City 0, Brighton 0 Sandringham City 0, Baxter 1 Endeavour Utd 1

**MILO Boys South 11 Jokeys Red:** Round 15: Langwarrin Berwick City, Mornington 3 Beaumaris 2, Brighton B 1 Keysborough 1, Sandringham City 3 Brighton A 0, Hampton 0 Hampton Park Utd 5

**MILO Boys East 16 A:** Round 15: Riversdale Raiders Bye, Doncaster Rovers JSC East Bentleigh, Glen Waverley 4 Sherbrooke Rangers 2, Bulleen 8 Ashburton 0, Nunawading City 1 Manningham 0

**MILO Boys East 16 B:** Round 15: Boroondara Lions Bye, Glen Eira 2 Eastern Lions 5, Boroondara Bye, North Caulfield 2 Manningham 0, Richmond 6 Mooroolbark 2

**MILO Boys East 15 A:** Round 15: Kiock City Bye, South Melbourne 1 Boroondara 3, Bulleen 2 South Springvale 0, North Caulfield 2 Manningham 0, Richmond 2 Doncaster Rovers JSC 3

**MILO Boys East 15 B:** Round 15: Doncaster Rovers JSC 3 Westvale 0, Boroondara 1 Croydon City Arrows JSC 2, Eastern Lions 1 Brandon Park 1, North Caulfield 1 East Bentleigh 4, Nunawading City 3 Glen Waverley 2

**MILO Boys East 15 C:** Round 15: Mooroolbark 1 Port Melbourne JSC 7, Richmond Bye, Boroondara Lions Ashburton, Sherbrooke Rangers 0 Caulfield Utd 6, Manningham 1 Ringwood City 0

**MILO Boys East 14 A:** Round 15: Glen Waverley 2 Eastern Lions 1, Kingston City 6 Sherbrooke Rangers 0, Bulleen 3 Nunawading City 0, Caulfield Utd 3 Riversdale Raiders 1, Richmond Bye

**MILO Boys East 14 B:** Round 15: Doncaster Rovers JSC 3 Westvale 0, Boroondara 1 Croydon City Arrows JSC 2, Eastern Lions 1 Brandon Park 1, North Caulfield 1 East Bentleigh 4, Nunawading City 3 Glen Waverley 2

**MILO Boys East 14 C:** Round 15: Mooroolbark 1 Port Melbourne JSC 7, Richmond Bye, Boroondara Lions Ashburton, Sherbrooke Rangers 0 Caulfield Utd 6, Manningham 1 Ringwood City 0

**MILO Boys East 14 D:** Round 15: Doncaster Rovers JSC 1 Boroondara 14, Eastern Lions 0 East Bentleigh 2, Manningham 14 Ringwood City 0, Glen Eira 0 Hampton 3, Ashburton 2 Chelsea 0

**MILO Boys East 13 A:** Round 15: Croydon City Arrows Bye, South Melbourne 2 Port Melbourne 0, Bulleen 3 Clayton 0, North Caulfield Riversdale Raiders, Oakleigh 0 Doncaster Rovers 2

**MILO Boys East 13 B:** Round 15: Boroondara Bye, Kingston City 6 Sherbrooke Rangers 0, Eastern Lions 1 Monash City 2, Nunawading City 2 Manningham 1, Richmond 2 Ashburton 0

**MILO Boys East 13 C:** Round 15: Mooroolbark Bye, Glen Waverley 0 Richmond 2, Bye Brandon Park, North Caulfield 2 Caulfield Utd 0, Springvale City 1 Ringwood City 2

**MILO Boys East 13 D:** Round 15: Boroondara Bye, Doncaster Rovers 3 Glen Waverley 0, Boroondara Lions 3 East Bentleigh 1, Croydon City Arrows 1 Glen Eira 0, North Caulfield 2 Ashburton 2

**MILO Boys East 12 A:** Round 15: East Bentleigh Bye, South Melbourne 2 Monash City 0, Knox City 0 Richmond 4, Glen Waverley 1 Box Hill Inter 8, Whitehorse 0 Bulleen 2

**MILO Boys East 12 B:** Round 15: Riversdale Raiders 4 Glen Waverley 2, Stonnington City Bye, Bulleen 2 Croydon City Arrows JSC 0, North Caulfield 1 Ringwood City 3, Oakleigh 6 Doncaster Rovers JSC 1

**MILO Boys East 12 C:** Round 15: Mooroolbark 6 Boroondara Lions 1, Eastern Lions Bye, Bulleen 1 Brandon Park 1, North Caulfield 12 Ashburton 0, Waverley Wanderers 0 Melbourne United 1

**MILO Boys East 12 D:** Round 15: Doncaster Rovers JSC 2 Knox City 4, Eastern Lions Bye, Bye Clayton, Croydon City Arrows JSC 0 Manningham 7, North Caulfield 2 Riversdale Raiders 0

**MILO Boys East 12 E:** Round 15: Bye Caulfield United, Bye Croydon City Arrows JSC, Whitehorse 3 Frankston Strikers 0, Bentleigh Greens 5 Ringwood City 0, Northcote City Richmond

**MILO Boys East 11 Kangaroos Green:** Round 15: Bye Richmond, South Melbourne 5 Boroondara 0, Glen Waverley 1 Croydon City Arrows JSC 5, North Caulfield 0 Box Hill Inter 2, Oakleigh 0 Doncaster Rovers JSC 4

**MILO Boys East 11 Kangaroos Purple:** Round 15: South Melbourne 3 Boroondara 0, Ringwood City 1 Richmond 0, Stonnington City 0 Monash City 3, Riversdale Raiders 0 Bulleen 4, Nunawading City 3 Doncaster Rovers JSC 0

**MILO Boys East 11 Jokeys Orange:** Round 15: Doncaster Rovers JSC Bye, Knox Utd 5 Richmond 0, Bulleen 1 Clayton 1, North Caulfield 0 East Bentleigh 0, Eastern Lions Bye

**MILO Boys East 11 Jokeys Blue:** Round 15: Kingston City Bye, Caulfield Utd 1 Nunawading City 2, East Bentleigh 1 Ashburton 1, Croydon City Arrows JSC 0 Bulleen 6, Richmond 0 Manningham 0

**MILO Boys East 11 Jokeys Red:** Round 15: Doncaster Rovers Bye, Knox City 3 Sherbrooke Rangers 0, Glen Eira 1 Brandon Park 0, North Caulfield 3 Ashburton 0, Richmond 3 Melbourne Utd 0

**MILO Boys East 11 Jokeys Yellow:** Round 15: Mooroolbark 3 Riversdale Raiders 0, Monash City 5 Glen Waverley 0, Boroondara Lions 1 Port Melbourne JSC 1, Ringwood City 0 Glen Eira 1, Springvale City 6 Eastern Lions 0

**MILO Boys N/W 16 B:** Round 15: Maribymong Greens 0 Keilor Wolves 1, Lalor Utd 7 Broadmeadows Utd 3, Sydenham Park 6 Watsons Heights 1, Werribee City 7 Meadow Park 0, Altona City Altona East

**MILO Boys N/W 14 B:** Round 15: Sunbury Utd Bye, Bundoora 1 Light Utd 2, Sydenham Park 0 North Sunshine Eagles 3, Gisborne 2 Sunshine Georgies 6, Essendon Royals 3 Altona East 6

**MILO Boys N/W 14 C:** Round 15: Bye Essendon Royals, Flemington Eagles 2 Werribee City 6, Lalor Utd 4 Altona City 1, Northcote City Watsons Heights

**MILO Boys N/W 13 B:** Round 15: Fawkner 5 Heidelberg Utd 0, Hoppers Crossing JSC 1 North Sunshine Eagles 0, Epping City 3 Brunswick City 0, Mill Park 0 Brunswick Zebras 10, Laverton Park North Coburg United

**MILO Boys N/W 13 C:** Round 15: Keilor Wolves Bye, Brimbank City 4 Whittlesea Utd 1, Brunswick Zebras 5 Mill Park 0, Plenty Valley Lions Melbourne Lions, Altona City Westvale

**MILO Boys North 16 A:** Round 15: Moreland Utd 2 Clifton Hill Utd 4, Light Utd 1 North Coburg Utd 2, Epping City 2 Brunswick City 2, Eltham North 0 Brunswick Zebras 3, Heidelberg Stars 3 Bundoora 1

**MILO Boys North 15 A:** Round 15: Bye Moreland Wolves, Preston Lions 6 Eltham North 0, Whittlesea Utd 2 Brunswick City 3, Whittlesea Stallions 4 Brunswick Zebras 0, Essendon Royals 3 Bundoora 2

**MILO Boys North 15 B:** Round 15: Yarraville 2 Heidelberg Utd 1, Light Utd 3 Sunbury United 1, Brunswick Zebras 1 Plenty Valley Lions 0, Brimbank City 6 Lalor 0, Northcote City Carlton Youth FC

**MILO Boys North 14 A:** Round 15: North Coburg Utd Bye, Moreland Utd 2 Fawkner 3, Epping City Eltham North, Hume Utd 0 Brunswick Zebras 1, Essendon Royals 0 Bundoora 1

**MILO Boys North 13 A:** Round 15: Bundoora 3 Moreland City 0, Lalor Utd 1 Diamond Valley Utd 2, Epping City 2 Eltham North 4, Whittlesea Stallions 0 Light Utd 2, Essendon Royals 2 Bendigo Amateur Soccer League 1

**MILO Boys North 12 A:** Round 15: Fawkner 4 Heidelberg Utd 1, Sunbury Utd 0 North Coburg Utd 7, North City Lions JSC 1 Brunswick City 2, Hume Utd 3 Epping City 1, Essendon Royals 8 Bundoora 0

**MILO Boys North 12 B:** Round 15: Fawkner 4 Moreland City 0, Lalor Utd 1 Preston Lions 4, Epping City 1 Eltham North 8, Whittlesea Stallions 4 Brunswick Zebras 0, Light Utd 0 Bendigo Amateur Soccer League 0

**MILO Boys North 12 C:** Round 15: Bundoora Bye, Bye Fawkner, Plenty Valley Lions 0 Clifton Hill Utd 1, Banyule City 3 Whittlesea Stallions 10, Eltham North 1 Meadow Park 1

**MILO Boys North 12 D:** Round 15: Moreland Utd 4 Watsons Heights 0, Alphington 7 Moreland Wolves 1, Brunswick Zebras 2 Greenvale Utd 1, Hume Utd 1 Youth Utd 3, Essendon Royals 1 Broadmeadows Utd 2

**MILO Boys North 11 Kangaroos Green:** Round 15: North City Lions JSC Bye, Bundoora 6 Heidelberg Utd 0, Epping City Brunswick City, Eltham North 0 Brunswick Zebras 5, Heidelberg Stars 0 Preston Lions 2

**MILO Boys North 11 Kangaroos Purple:** Round 15: Moreland City 0, Light Utd 3 North City Lions JSC 0, Brunswick Zebras 0 Whittlesea Stallions 3, Melbourne Knights, Clifton Hill Utd, Essendon Royals 5 Fawkner 2

**MILO Boys North 11 Jokeys Blue:** Round 15: Moreland Utd 4 Light United North 0, Lalor Utd 0 North Coburg Utd 1, Epping City 1 Watsons Heights 2, Brunswick City 0 Diamond Valley Utd 2, Essendon Royals 1 Keon Park 0

**MILO Boys West 16 A:** Round 15: Ballarat Academy Of Soccer 5 Hoppers Crossing JSC 1, Brimbank 4 St Albans 2, Avondale Heights 0 North Sunshine Eagles 3, Keilor Park 0 Sunshine Georgies 2, Altona Magic 7 Melton 2

**MILO Boys West 14 A:** Round 15: Altona City Bye, Ballarat Academy Of Soccer 7 Hoppers Crossing 2, Brimbank 1 St Albans 2, Albion Rovers 2 Green Gully 2, Keilor Park 5 Laverton Park 2

**MILO Boys West 13 A:** Round 15: Ballarat Academy Of Soccer 0 Sunshine Heights 2, Werribee City Williamstown, Sydenham Park 0 Green Gully 3, Keilor Park 0 North Sunshine Georgies 2, Western Eagles 2 Melbourne Knights 1

**MILO Boys West 12 A:** Round 15: Albion Rovers 14 Hoppers Crossing JSC 0, Brimbank 10 Sunshine Heights 0, Sydenham Park 0 Keilor Park 1, Melbourne Knights 0 Green Gully 0, Altona City Werribee City

**MILO Boys West 12 B:** Round 15: Bye Melton, Ballarat Academy Of Soccer 0 Gisborne 3, Brimbank 1 St Albans 1, Avondale Heights 0 Green Gully 1, Keilor Park 1 Sunshine Georgies 2

**MILO Boys West 11 Kangaroos Green:** Round 15: Hoppers Crossing Bye, WVSA 0 Gisborne 4, Albion Rovers 1 Keilor Park 1, Bye Green Gully, Altona City Flemington Eagles

**MILO Boys West 11 Jokeys Blue:** Round 15: Werribee City Bye, Brimbank 0 Williamstown 5, Avondale Heights Bye, Keilor Park Satellite City Utd, Laverton Park 1 Maribymong Greens 2

**MILO Boys West 11 Jokeys Red:** Round 15: Sunshine Georgies Bye, Gisborne 0 Sunbury Utd 7, Bye St Albans, Sydenham Park 0 Green Gully 10, Altona City Bendigo Amateur Soccer League

**MILO Girls Metro 18 Green:** Round 15: Brunswick Zebras Bye, Bundoora 8 Heidelberg Utd 0, Sydenham Park 0 Sandringham City 9, Bye St Albans, Whitehorse 0 Bulleen 1

**MILO Girls Metro 18 Purple:** Round 15: Berwick City Bye, Sherbrooke Rangers 1 Mornington 1, Langwarrin Bye, Glen Eira 0 Noble Park 8, Croydon City Arrows JSC 1 Endeavour Utd 2

**MILO Girls Metro 15 A:** Round 15: Ashburton 6 Richmond 1, Westgate Bye, Glen Eira 6 Watsons Heights 0, Beaumaris 1 Bendigo Amateur Soccer League 2

**MILO Girls Metro 15 B:** Round 15: Berwick City Bye, Langwarrin 1 Rosebud 0, Boroondara Lions 1 Sandringham City 1, Baxter 0 Brighton JSC 0, Bye Mornington

**MILO Girls Metro 15 C:** Round 15: Eastern Lions Bye, Sherbrooke Rangers 0 East Bentleigh 4, Mornington Bye, Brighton JSC 1 North Caulfield 1, Hampton Park Utd 1 Croydon City Arrows JSC 2

**MILO Girls Metro 13 A:** Round 15: Peninsula 0 Knox City 4, Berwick City 4 Croydon City Arrows JSC 0, Brighton JSC 0 Sandringham City 1, Baxter 5 Mornington 0, Beaumaris 5 Sherbrooke Rangers 2

**MILO Girls Metro 13 B:** Round 15: Doncaster Rovers JSC 4 Carrum Utd 0, Brunswick Zebras 0 Sunbury Utd 0, Richmond 1 Brighton JSC 0, Western Eagles Nunawading City, Dandenong Thunder 0 Boroondara Lions 1

**MILO Girls Metro 13 C:** Round 15: Langwarrin 2 East Bentleigh 0, Caulfield Utd 4 Watsons Heights 0, Altona City Bundoora, Hoppers Crossing JSC 1 Beaumaris 1, Doncaster Rovers JSC 1 Brighton JSC 0

**MILO Girls S/E 16 A:** Round 15: Cranbourne Comets Bye, Chelsea 3 Phillip Island 0, Whitehorse 0 Casey Panthers 0, Langwarrin 3 Glen Waverley 1, Sherbrooke Rangers 2 Mooroolbark 0

**MILO Girls S/E 16 B:** Round 15: Boroondara 0 Dandenong City 1, Berwick Kings 4 North Caulfield 2, Seaford Utd 0 Knox City 1, Boroondara Lions 6 Croydon City Arrows JSC 0, Richmond 11 Brighton JSC 2

**MILO Girls S/E 14 A:** Round 15: Boroondara Bye, Whitehorse Bye, Doncaster Rovers JSC 2 Berwick City 6, Brighton JSC 0 Sandringham City 4, Richmond 3 Mornington 1

**MILO Girls S/E 14 B:** Round 15: Richmond Bye, Langwarrin Bye, Brighton JSC 3 North Caulfield 2, Ringwood City 0 Glen Eira 0, Seaford Utd 1 Mooroolbark 5

**MILO Girls S/E 14 C:** Round 15: Endeavour Utd Bye, Boroondara Diamond Valley Utd, Glen Waverley 1 Ashburton 2, Sandringham City 3 Casey Panthers 1, Eastern Lions 3 North Caulfield 0

**MILO Girls S/E 12 A:** Round 15: Glen Eira Bye, Berwick City 5 Richmond 1, Sandringham City Brighton JSC, Boroondara Lions 1 North Caulfield 1, Croydon City Arrows JSC 0 Ashburton 2

**MILO Girls S/E 12 B:** Round 15: Brighton JSC Glen Waverley, Box Hill Inter Glen Eira, Baxter 0 Sherbrooke Rangers 4, Melbourne United 2 0 Boroondara 3, Melbourne Utd 1 Bye

**MILO Girls S/E 12 C:** Round 15: Sandringham City Bye, Knox City 0 Carrum Utd 0, Mornington 1 Baxter 1, Port Melbourne JSC 0 North Caulfield 1, Beaumaris 2 Caulfield Utd 1

**MILO Girls S/E 11:** Round 15: Bye Bye, North Caulfield 1 Ashburton 1, Brighton JSC 1 Croydon City Arrows JSC 1, Richmond 0 Sherbrooke Rangers 0, Boroondara Lions 1 Carrum Utd 1

**MILO Girls N/W 16 A:** Round 15: South Melbourne 10 Sunbury Utd 0, Sunshine Georgies 5 Whittlesea Stallions 2, Altona City Bundoora, Gisborne 1 Epping City 3, Essendon Royals 1 North City Lions JSC 2

**MILO Girls N/W 16 B:** Round 15: Melton Bye, Keilor Park 2 Brunswick Zebras 1, Albion Rovers 2 Eltham North 1, Ballarat Academy Of Soccer 0 Sandringham City 4, Brimbank 1 Williamstown 2

**MILO Girls N/W 14:** Round 15: Ballarat Academy Of Soccer Bye, Gisborne 0 Bundoora 3, Meadow Park 1 Eltham North 2, Epping City 3 Brunswick City 1, Keilor Park 0 Brunswick Zebras 2

**MILO Girls N/W 12:** Round 15: Bye Essendon Royals A, Alphington 2 Eltham North 1, Brunswick Zebras 0 Brunswick City 3, Bendigo Amateur Soccer League 2 Diamond Valley Utd 0

MILO Boys S/E 16 Super League	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Knox City JSC	15	14	1	0	60	6	43
South Melbourne JFC	15	11	1	3	60	21	34
Bulleen JSC	14	10	2	2	54	16	32
Southern Stars JFC	15	10	2	3	29	14	32
South Eastern Piranhas	15	6	4	5	29	25	22
Bentleigh Greens JSC	15	3	5	7	15	44	14
Glen Waverley JSC	15	3	4	8	24	43	13
Doncaster Rovers JSC	14	3	8	20	46	12	4
Oakleigh JSC	15	1	1	13	18	45	4
Whitehorse	15	1	1	13	9	57	4

MILO Boys S/E 15 Super League	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Box Hill Inter JSC	14	10	1	3	53	22	31
South Melbourne JFC	13	7	5	1	25	13	26
Bulleen JSC	12	7	5	3	29	9	24
Kingston City JSC	13	5	5	3	23	16	20
Gippsland Soccer League	13	6	1	6	22	27	19
Noble Park JSC	14	4	3	7	23	36	15
Whitehorse	12	4	2	6	20	24	14
Doncaster Rovers JSC	13	1	5	7	17	42	9
Beaumaris SC	14	1	3	10	10	33	6

MILO Boys S/E 14 Super League							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
South Melbourne JFC	15	13	1	1	55	13	40
Box Hill Inter JSC	15	11	1	3	41	13	34
Manningham JSC	14	9	2	3	30	17	29
Bulleen JSC	14	7	5	2	33	14	26
Knox City JSC	15	7	2	6	21	18	23
Endeavour Utd	14	5	3	6	18	14	18
Doncaster Rovers JSC	13	5	2	6	17	25	17
Whitehorse	15	1	4	10	9	45	7
Chelsea JSC	14	1	3	10	9	38	6
Geelong SC	14	1	1	10	6	30	4





# JUNIOR LEAGUES



Mornington SC 15 3 2 10 20 47 11  
Hampton Park Utd 15 2 0 13 16 64 6  
Seaford Utd 14 1 1 12 11 48 4

## MILO Boys South 15 B

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Dandenong City JSC	15	14	1	1	112	19 43	
Bentleigh Greens JSC	15	12	1	2	61	25 37	
Endeavour United JSC	14	8	4	2	40	14 28	
Baxter Soccer Club	15	7	0	8	35	35 21	
Beaumaris SC	15	6	3	6	32	37 21	
Langwarrin SC	15	6	2	7	31	28 20	
Rosebud JSC	14	6	2	6	32	47 20	
Berwick City JSC	15	6	0	9	36	48 18	
Brighton JSC	15	1	1	13	15	79 4	
Mornington A	15	0	2	13	15	77 2	

## MILO Boys South 14 A

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Springvale White Eagles	15	13	1	1	74	19 40	
Mornington	15	13	0	2	81	15 39	
Brighton	15	10	1	4	72	29 31	
Sandringham City	15	10	0	5	60	27 30	
Langwarrin	14	9	1	4	42	15 28	
Berwick City	14	7	1	6	54	33 22	
Lyndale Utd	15	4	0	11	41	63 12	
Beaumaris	15	3	0	12	16	79 9	
Hampton Park Utd	15	2	0	13	12	78 6	
Baxter	15	1	0	14	11	05 3	

## MILO Boys South 14 B

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Dandenong City JSC	14	12	1	1	51	11 37	
Frankston Pines JSC	13	11	0	2	75	8 33	
Cranbourne Comets JSC	14	10	2	2	56	18 32	
Brighton JSC	13	7	1	5	51	29 22	
Mornington SC	13	5	1	7	29	31 16	
Langwarrin SC	13	5	1	7	29	34 16	
Peninsula JSC	13	5	0	8	31	40 15	
Sandringham City JSC	13	2	0	11	19	69 6	
Heatherton Utd	0	0	0	0	0	0	
White Star Dandenong JSC	14	0	0	14	81	09 0	

## MILO Boys South 13 A

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Dandenong Thunder JSC	15	14	0	1	69	8 42	
Bentleigh Greens JSC	15	11	1	3	38	14 34	
Langwarrin SC	15	10	3	2	41	8 33	
Berwick City JSC	15	10	0	5	53	11 30	
Brighton JSC	15	9	1	5	47	19 28	
Frankston Pines JSC	15	8	1	6	36	18 25	
Doveon JSC	14	4	3	8	29	41 15	
Mornington SC	15	2	2	11	9	68 8	
Hampton Park Utd	15	0	2	13	4	52 2	
Endeavour Utd	15	0	1	14	4	91 1	

## MILO Boys South 13 B

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Lyndale Utd	15	13	2	0	83	8 41	
Berwick City JSC	15	12	0	3	84	14 36	
East Bentleigh JSC	15	11	2	2	64	14 35	
Sandringham City JSC	15	10	2	3	65	18 32	
Beaumaris SC	15	8	3	4	40	19 27	
Brighton JSC	14	4	0	10	24	49 12	
Carrum Utd	15	4	0	11	15	65 12	
Seaford Utd	14	2	2	10	9	53 8	
Phillip Island JSC	15	2	2	11	21	66 8	
Hampton Park Utd	15	1	1	13	9	88 4	

## MILO Boys South 13 C

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Beaumaris	14	11	1	2	44	21 34	
Springvale White Eagles	13	9	0	4	40	28 27	
Cranbourne Comets	13	7	4	2	40	17 25	
Seaford Utd	13	8	1	4	41	21 25	
Langwarrin	13	7	3	3	42	19 24	
Baxter	13	4	1	8	11	25 13	
Brighton	13	4	0	9	18	30 12	
Sandringham City	14	3	1	10	10	47 10	
Berwick City	14	1	1	12	8	46 4	

## MILO Boys South 12 A

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Berwick City JSC	15	12	2	1	52	10 39	
Beaumaris SC	15	12	1	2	48	9 37	
Dandenong City JSC	15	11	2	2	47	17 35	
Sandringham City JSC	15	9	3	3	39	15 30	
Peninsula JSC	15	8	4	3	27	9 30	
Bentleigh Greens JSC	15	6	2	7	24	23 28	
Mornington SC	15	4	1	10	21	36 13	
Brighton JSC	15	3	1	11	11	28 10	
Hampton Park Utd	15	1	0	14	5	57 3	
Langwarrin SC	15	1	0	14	14	84 3	

## MILO Boys South 12 B

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Hampton	13	11	1	1	33	7 34	
Beaumaris	13	7	3	3	24	14 24	
Mornington	14	6	3	5	23	18 21	
Cranbourne Comets	14	6	2	6	16	16 20	
Seaford Utd	12	6	1	5	15	19 19	
Brighton	13	5	2	6	16	17 17	
Berwick City	14	3	5	6	16	17 14	
Sandringham City	13	1	5	7	18	8 8	
Chelsea	12	2	2	8	5	30 8	
Langwarrin	0	0	0	0	0	0	

## MILO Boys South 12 C

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Rosebud JSC	11	11	0	0	41	0 33	
Beaumaris SC	11	8	1	2	32	15 25	
Baxter Soccer Club	11	7	2	2	27	13 23	
Mornington SC	12	7	0	5	22	15 21	
Langwarrin SC	12	4	4	4	15	23 16	
Sandringham City JSC	12	2	2	8	13	36 8	
Brighton JSC	12	1	1	10	7	32 4	
Seaford Utd	11	1	0	10	11	34 3	

## MILO Boys South 12 D

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Harrisfield Hurricanes	12	11	0	1	92	10 33	
Bentleigh Greens JSC	12	11	0	1	83	10 33	
Keysborough JSC	12	7	1	4	72	26 22	
Peninsula JSC	11	7	1	3	52	18 22	
Hampton JSC	12	5	0	7	41	29 15	
Lyndale Utd	12	3	0	9	12	97 9	
Casey Panthers JSC	12	2	0	10	9	77 6	

Endeavour Hills SC 11 0 0 11 0 93 0

## MILO Boys South 11 Kangaroos Green

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Brighton	14	11	3	0	44	13 36	
Beaumaris	13	8	4	1	48	10 28	
Berwick City	13	8	3	2	36	14 27	
Mornington	13	7	2	4	30	16 23	
Dandenong City	14	6	2	6	25	19 20	
Heatherton Utd	13	4	1	8	23	31 13	
Sandringham City	14	2	6	6	11	24 12	
Hampton	13	1	2	10	8	46 5	
Cranbourne Comets	13	1	1	11	11	63 4	

## MILO Boys South 11 Kangaroos Purple

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Sandringham City JSC	13	11	1	1	78	6 34	
Langwarrin SC	13	8	4	1	48	7 28	
Noble Park JSC	13	7	4	2	41	8 25	
Dandenong Thunder JSC	14	7	4	3	41	14 25	
Seaford Utd	14	7	4	3	36	13 25	
Springvale White Eagles	12	5	1	6	39	16 15	
Peninsula JSC	13	2	1	10	7	61 7	
Mornington SC	13	0	3	10	4	74 3	
Rosebud JSC	13	0	2	11	4	99 2	

## MILO Boys South 11 Joys Blue

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Berwick City	13	12	1	0	73	7 37	
Sandringham City	13	10	1	2	47	15 31	
Brighton	13	8	3	2	28	14 27	
Endeavour Utd	13	7	2	4	24	22 23	
Beaumaris	13	5	1	7	19	27 16	
Baxter	14	4	3	7	29	32 15	
Doveon	14	3	2	9	20	29 11	
Dandenong City	12	3	1	8	9	39 10	
Carrum Utd	13	0	0	13	1	65 0	

## MILO Boys South 11 Joys Red

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Hampton Park Utd	15	13	2	0	59	12 41	
Mornington	15	11	1	3	38	13 34	
Brighton B	15	9	4	2	28	10 31	
Hampton	15	9	1	5	28	17 28	
Sandringham City	15	8	2	5	28	17 26	
Keysborough	15	6	1	8	22	29 19	
Langwarrin	14	4	1	9	9	32 13	
Beaumaris	15	3	1	11	15	36 10	
Brighton A	15	2	2	11	6	34 8	
Berwick City	14	1	1	12	4	47 4	

## MILO Boys East 16 A

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Bulleen JSC	13	11	1	1	60	10 34	
Riversdale Raiders	12	10	1	1	45	14 31	
Nunawading City JSC	12	8	2	4	44	16 26	
Manningham JSC	12	7	1	4	33	14 22	
Glen Waverley JSC	14	7	0	7	39	21 21	
East Bentleigh JSC	11	6	1	4	32	19 19	
Sherbrooke Rangers JSC	13	2	1	10			





# JUNIOR LEAGUES



## MILO Boys North 12 D

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Greenvale Utd	15	11	2	2	57	8	35
Broadmeadows Utd	15	11	1	3	52	20	34
Essendon Royals JSC	15	8	5	2	40	11	29
Moreland Utd	14	9	1	4	32	19	28
Youth Utd	15	8	3	4	34	30	27
Hume Utd	15	5	3	7	25	32	18
Brunswick Zebras JSC	15	6	0	9	23	34	18
Watsonia Heights JSC	15	3	2	10	20	54	11
Moreland Wolves	14	3	1	10	20	50	10
Alphington	15	1	0	14	17	64	3

## MILO Boys North 11 Kangaroos Green

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Brunswick Zebras JSC	13	10	3	0	31	6	33
Bundoora JSC	13	9	1	3	41	7	28
Preston Lions JSC	13	8	4	1	34	6	28
North City Lions JSC	13	8	2	3	49	15	26
Brunswick City JSC	12	6	2	4	30	14	20
Heidelberg Stars JSC	14	4	1	9	20	25	13
Epping City SC	13	4	1	8	16	34	13
Heidelberg Utd	13	3	0	10	11	46	9
Eltham North JSC	14	0	0	14	1	80	0

## MILO Boys North 11 Kangaroos Purple

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Whittlesea Stallions JSC	14	10	2	2	28	7	32
Essendon Royals JSC	13	9	3	1	42	8	30
Melbourne Knights JSC	12	9	2	1	41	10	29
Light Utd	13	7	3	3	24	7	24
Fawkner JSC	13	6	2	5	20	22	20
Moreland City JSC	13	5	0	8	8	24	15
North City Lions JSC	13	3	3	7	15	23	12
Brunswick Zebras JSC	13	0	2	11	5	40	2
Clifton Hill Utd	12	0	1	11	4	44	1

## MILO Boys North 11 Joeys Blue

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Moreland Utd	14	13	1	0	56	2	40
Diamond Valley Utd	15	11	2	2	35	6	35
Essendon Royals JSC	15	10	1	4	24	10	31
Keon Park SC	14	6	3	5	20	17	21
Watsonia Heights JSC	15	6	2	7	21	26	20
Light United North JSC	12	5	0	7	19	25	15
North Coburg Utd	13	4	2	7	9	15	14
Epping City SC	15	4	0	11	12	38	12
Lalor Utd	14	2	4	8	11	31	10
Brunswick City JSC	15	2	1	12	7	48	7

## MILO Boys West 16 A

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Albion Rovers	14	13	0	1	90	13	39
Keilor Park	15	11	2	2	67	8	35
St Albans	15	11	1	3	62	24	34
Western Eagles	15	10	1	4	47	29	31
Ballarat Academy Of Soccer	14	6	3	5	35	29	21
Laverton Park	15	4	4	7	23	30	16
Sunbury Utd	15	5	1	9	31	60	16
WVSA	14	4	1	9	27	43	13
Gisborne	14	2	0	12	12	66	6
Sunshine Heights	15	0	1	14	5	97	1

## MILO Boys West 15 A

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Sunshine Georgies JSC	15	12	3	0	86	13	39
North Sunshine Eagles JSC	15	10	3	2	40	15	33
Altona Magic JSC	15	8	6	1	56	16	30
Brimbank JSC	15	9	2	4	69	27	29
Keilor Park JSC	15	8	2	5	56	29	26
Ballarat Academy Of Soccer	15	8	2	5	33	28	26
Avondale Heights JSC	15	5	0	10	19	48	15
St Albans	15	3	0	12	28	57	9
Melton SC	15	3	0	12	37	92	9
Hoppers Crossing JSC	15	0	0	15	31	01	0

## MILO Boys West 14 A

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Albion Rovers	14	9	2	3	36	13	29
Green Gully	13	9	2	2	36	14	29
Keilor Park	14	8	4	2	36	16	28
Ballarat Academy Of Soccer	14	8	3	3	36	17	27
Altona City	13	8	1	4	44	12	25
St Albans	13	3	2	8	10	32	11
Hoppers Crossing	13	3	1	9	29	42	10
Laverton Park	13	2	2	9	19	40	8
Brimbank	13	1	1	11	7	67	4

## MILO Boys West 13 A

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Sunshine Heights	15	14	1	0	75	8	43
Sunshine Georgies	15	12	2	1	57	13	38
Ballarat Academy Of Soccer	15	9	1	5	39	20	28
Sydenham Park	15	7	2	6	18	24	23
Green Gully	15	7	1	7	28	21	22
Keilor Park	15	7	0	8	26	22	21
Werrimbee City	14	7	0	7	29	27	21
Western Eagles	15	5	1	9	23	34	16
Williamstown	14	4	0	13	10	69	3
Melbourne Knights	15	1	0	14	5	72	3

## MILO Boys West 12 A

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Brimbank JSC	15	12	2	1	57	10	38
Albion Rovers JSC	15	11	0	4	70	16	33
Altona City JSC	14	10	2	2	54	10	32
Green Gully JSC	15	9	3	3	40	11	30
Melbourne Knights JSC	15	7	5	3	35	12	26
Werrimbee City JSC	14	8	1	5	36	18	25
Keilor Park JSC	15	4	3	8	23	26	15
Sydenham Park JSC	14	3	0	11	10	33	9
Hoppers Crossing JSC	14	1	0	13	4	91	3
Sunshine Heights JSC	15	0	0	15	21	04	0

## MILO Boys West 12 B

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Sunshine Georgies JSC	13	12	1	0	43	7	37
Keilor Park JSC	14	10	0	4	41	10	30
Gisborne Junior Soccer Club	13	8	2	3	26	10	26
Ballarat Academy Of Soccer	13	6	2	5	29	30	20
St Albans	13	4	3	6	18	20	15
Melton SC	13	4	2	7	16	26	14
Green Gully JSC	13	3	1	9	9	25	10
Brimbank JSC	14	3	1	10	10	46	10
Avondale Heights JSC	12	3	0	9	11	29	9

## Altona City JSC 0 0 0 0

## MILO Boys West 11 Kangaroos Green

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Green Gully	12	8	1	3	50	8	25
Altona City	11	8	1	2	48	7	25
Keilor Park	12	7	3	2	38	7	24
Gisborne	10	8	0	2	20	8	24
Albion Rovers	10	3	4	3	16	21	13
Hoppers Crossing	11	2	2	7	14	43	8
WVSA	12	2	1	9	18	45	7
Flemington Eagles	12	1	0	11	13	78	3

## MILO Boys West 11 Joeys Blue

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Avondale Heights JSC	10	9	0	1	41	9	27
Williamstown JSC	12	8	3	1	28	6	27
Laverton Park JSC	11	6	2	3	31	17	20
Maribyrnong Greens JSC	11	5	2	4	13	13	17
Keilor Park JSC	9	4	1	4	21	12	13
Satellite City Utd	11	3	0	8	11	36	9
Werrimbee City JSC	11	2	1	8	10	30	7
Brimbank JSC	11	1	1	9	1	33	4

## MILO Boys West 11 Joeys Red

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Green Gully	11	9	1	1	48	8	28
Bendigo Amateur Soccer League	11	8	1	2	47	13	25
Sunbury Utd	11	8	1	2	39	6	25
Sunshine Georgies	11	5	4	2	35	9	19
Altona City	12	5	0	7	34	16	15
Sydenham Park	12	4	0	8	24	67	12
St Albans	11	1	2	8	10	33	5
Gisborne	11	0	1	10	2	97	1

## MILO Girls Metro 18 Green

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Sandringham City JSC	11	11	0	0	79	2	33
Bundoora JSC	10	9	0	1	73	11	27
Sydenham Park JSC	12	8	0	4	41	27	24
St Albans JSC	12	4	3	5	25	28	15
Bulleen JSC	11	4	2	5	20	44	14
Brunswick Zebras JSC	11	3	2	6	33	37	11
Heidelberg United JSC	11	2	1	8	9	47	7
Whitehorse	12	0	0	12	3	87	0

## MILO Girls Metro 18 Purple

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Noble Park JSC	13	12	0	1	83	8	36
Sherbrooke Rangers JSC	12	6	1	5	18	15	19
Mornington SC	10	6	1	3	12	22	19
Berwick City JSC	10	5	1	4	20	16	16
Langwarrin SC	10	4	1	5	17	20	13
Endeavour Utd	11	4	0	7	8	28	12
Croydon City Arrows JSC	11	3	2	6	13	21	11
Glen Eira JSC	11	1	0	10	5	46	3

## MILO Girls Metro 15 A

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Ashburton JWSC	12	10	1	1	36	12	31
Richmond JSC	12	7	1	4	31	26	22
Epping City SC	12	6	3	3	35	29	21
Bendigo Amateur Soccer JSC	11	5	2	4	30	20	17
Baumaris SC	12	5	1	6	31	25	16
Glen Eira JSC	11	5	0	6	31	33	15
Westgate JSC	11	3	1	7	27	39	10
Watsonia Heights JSC	11	0	1	10	8	45	1

## MILO Girls Metro 15 B

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Rosebud JSC	12	8	1	3	23	10	25
Baxter Soccer Club	12	5	2	5	23	14	20
Brighton JSC	11	6	2	3	18	9	20
Berwick City JSC	12	6	1	5	18	15	19
Boroondara Lions JFC	11	5	3	3	22	16	18
Langwarrin SC	11	5	1	5	23	17	16
Sandringham City JSC	12	2	2	8	9	33	8
Mornington SC	11	1	1	9	4	26	4

## MILO Girls Metro 15 C

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Eastern Lions	11	10	0	1	41	0	30
East Bentleigh JSC	11	8	0	3	29	13	24
Sherbrooke Rangers JSC	12	7	1	4	30	19	22
Croydon City Arrows JSC	12	6	0	6	19	17	18
Brighton JSC	11	5	2	4	8	10	17
North Caulfield JSC	13	4	2	7	15	29	



# RISING STARS with Savas Ozdemir



Savas is congratulated after a stellar game against Essendon earlier this season

Preston fans, breathe a collective sigh of relief, for your saviour has pledged his loyalty to the Lions for 2007, and possibly beyond.

That saviour is of course, goalkeeper Savas Ozdemir. "I will definitely be with Preston next season, unless I receive a much better offer from a club in a higher league," he confirms. But contain your excitement Lions diehards, because the good news just keeps on coming. Savas admits he still has a great deal of improvement left in his game, a prospect which leaves the Lions in good stead for the future. "I'm only 17, so I'm still very young in goalkeeping terms. I just need

to keep working hard and I can achieve something great."

Not to say that he already hasn't. After a demoralising loss to Richmond, fans thought Preston had hit rock bottom. An injury to incumbent goalkeeper Goce Gruevski followed, leaving the Lions reeling.

It is certainly hard to believe, that just ten weeks ago this was the situation. Preston was in grave danger of being relegated, and Savas Ozdemir was a little-known face among the reserves at BT Connor Reserve. How times change. The Lions are now just out of the top six, after only two losses in their past nine matches (to

the all-conquering Oakleigh no less and most recently to Heidelberg), and that little-known Savas Ozdemir is right at the centre of this form resurgence.

A 3-1 victory over Essendon signalled a good start to Savas's senior career, but the jury was still out. However a consistent string of games followed, which had the Preston faithful singing his praises.

Hard as this is to comprehend, what is even harder to believe is that Ozdemir only began playing football at the age of thirteen, transferring over from basketball. "Yes, this is only my fourth season of football," he admits. "I left basketball because it was too political (the way the game was administered). I had more interest in football, so I joined North Coburg after that, and made the state team in that first season."

And he hasn't taken a backwards step since. He is also looking towards the bigger picture of A-League and professional leagues, which would involve living, eating and breathing football. "I'd love to just wake up in the morning, and think football, and in the day play football and then think football until the moment you go to sleep."

While he may be dreaming this, he is not going to jump at the first opportunity to leave Preston for an overseas team as so many do.

He recognises that to make it overseas, you need to make a name for yourself before you jump on the first flight to Europe. "I've been offered 14 and 21 day trials in Turkey, but you need to be successful beforehand. I realise that you need to go over with a reputation."

A reputation shouldn't be too hard to come by if he keeps modelling himself on his heroes Iker Casillas and Edwin van der Sar. With the help of Goran Lozanovski (head coach at Preston), and his goalkeeping coach John training him hard, and the mental support of Lions goal scoring champion Anthony Magnacca, they will keep him on the path to glory.

By Jeremy O'Neill



## Katsa's Korner With George Katsamboukas



12/23

A prominent FFV official made the big call to me on Friday night at the Kingston vs Richmond game, and in his own words, "Katsa - it's been a big week in Football."

Senior FFV official - It's always a big week in Football here in sunny Melbourne. Coaching changes, player walk-outs, the odd scuffle here along with appeals on match results makes our week very complete.

I made a big call during the week regarding the four surviving Vodafone Cup coaches and that is that one of them will be sent to the Centrelink office before the season is out.

Prior to last weekends rounds, Oakleigh coach Stuart Munro and South Melbourne coach John Anastasiadis were as safe as houses to keep their jobs, actually change that to as safe as mansions, however Michael Michalakopoulos and Fawkner-Whittlesea coach John Markovski were on some very shaky ground.

I offered one name of the last two mentioned and I was advised by one of the panel members that the name that I threw into the ring would not lose his job, as that club always stayed loyal to their coach until the season is over. Loyalty to coaches is a word that is missing from the club powerbroker's dictionary!

### Vodafone Cup

Things are certainly hotting up in the Vodafone Cup. Relegation and the final six places are up for grabs, with

too many permutations to mention.

Richmond is the surprise packet of the last two months. From relegation certainties, the club now finds itself in the top six.

They were rather impressive on Friday night, even though I only caught the second half, as Katsa was on assignment to the harbour city for the day.

Daniel Visovic continues to impress, bagging another two goals against a Kingston City team that looked rather flat. Word going around is that Kenny Murphy has the Kingston boys putting in extra training sessions, made up of plenty of running.

Running at training was never my favourite cup of Scotch, and the only way that I could motivate myself to keep up with the group and finish the session, would be to convince a team mate who was on the brink of producing fluorescent substances from the top end, to go ahead and do it.

"Don't fight nature son - think of those green peas that you had for lunch leaving your stomach" was a usual call that I made, and as this expulsion process was taking place, the player in question would always manage to abuse me in tandem to leaning over the fence, and giving a new meaning to the term barking!

### Junior Representatives

A point of correction was made to me last Monday regarding my comments on funding of Junior State representatives.

Tony Pignatta CEO of the FFV advises that the fees are \$2000 and not \$2500; and that each state member had to pay an equal amount irrespective of which state he originated from, so as to not penalise states such as WA, that had to travel large distances.

State representatives also now get to keep their strips, which are also embroidered with details of the competition held.

Boo made a rather big call last week, as he is wanting to me to now keep a scoreboard on coaching changes in the A-League, as I have been doing with the Vodafone Cup and State League Division 1.

I have never backed down from a challenge, so Boo - here we go.



A-LEAGUE  
Melbourne Victory coach  
Ernie Merrick has to  
produce the goods

1

### A-League

Ernie Merrick is under enormous pressure to produce results at the Melbourne Victory this year.

His pre season results, with the exception of Saturday's win against the Newcastle Jets, have been far from impressive.

Read what you like on the number one posted above.

Does it mean that Ernie's team will finish on top, or does it mean that Ernie will be the first coach to go?

Prove me and your other critics wrong Ernie, you represent a proud sporting city and our team needs to be in the top four all year.

### State Leagues

Dropping down a few leagues, actually a lot of leagues, Doveton City who once played as high as the equivalent

of today's Vodafone Cup many years ago, have recovered from their relegation to the provisional league last season, and are now in the box seat to get promoted back to the State League.

Coach Sam Elmazi has assembled an experienced squad that have produced the goods.

As the Season is drawing to a close, please keep an eye on all club powerbrokers as some of them may not be able to cope with the sad end that their teams may have for the year.

Remember lads, it's not where we start that matters, but where we finish!

Famous words of Real Estate auctioneers, also apply to Soccer.

Until next week...

This is Katsa, but not as you've known him, and when the fat lady sings, I hope that your team is the winner

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# BAYSIDE FOOTBALL LEAGUE



## ► Premier League

Hampton Park United closed the gap to four points as leaders Western Port again drop valuable points.

With conditions far from been idea on the day with very string winds creating situations where one team will dominate each half, it put a lot of pressure on defenses that just could not kick it pass their own half.

Mt Lilydale Old Collegians had chance after chance in the first half against Hampton Park United, but their failing to make an impact on the score line eased the pressure on Hampton Park for the second. Hampton Park eventually gains a valuable goal and three points to now be the clear candidate to challenge Western Port for the remaining rounds.

Leaders Western Port Wanderers are starting to show some cracks in their amour as they could only manage a 2 - 2 draw to Knox City. A very solid result for Knox City that keeps Peninsula below them by a point, but at the same did drop a place to Rosebud.

For only the second time this season, Rosebud was able to win back to back matches, and they did it so by thumping Boronia Knights 3 - 1. No team until this point has been able to score so many against the formidable Boronia defense. The win moves Rosebud into seventh, but for Boronia it was a big blow for their championship hopes.

Bayswater Strikers has now leaped into forth place with a massive 4 - 0 thumping away to third placed Croydon Ranges. This result has also too very much dented Croydon's recent

good form and could well spell the end of their championship hopes.

## ► Reserves

A win next round will be surly enough for Croydon Ranges to clinch their first league title in the Bayside League. With nine point gap and a massive goals for advantage, Boronia Colts has an impossible task.

Croydon Ranges decimated Bayswater Strikers 6 - 0 for their twelfth victory of the season. But for their main challengers Boronia Colts, they dropped two points when they only managed a 2 - 2 draw to ninth place Rosebud.

In other results Mt Lilydale got their sixth draw of the season with a 1 - 1 result at Hampton Park whilst Knox City lost to the ever improving Western Port.

## ► Division 1

With the title now firmly in the hands of Langwarrin, the chase for second place continues with Brighton Old Boys and Monash Peninsula only two points apart coming into this round.

But for Monash Peninsula they had to play away to the undefeated Langwarrin, and whilst Langy has won the title they very much wish to remain defeated this season. Langwarrin crushed Monash with four unanswered goals that have dented Monash hopes for second place big time. Brighton Old Boys made sure they took advan-

tage of Monash's defeat as they tore apart Boronia Cavaliers 4 - 1. Brighton now has a five point gap in second place.

Baxter Eagles & Cerberus both failed to take advantage of Monash's loss as they drew with each other with a scoreless draw.

Frankston Outlaws made the most of a powerful second half wind to score four times to roll over Mornington Power and win 4 - 1.

## ► Women's League

Frankston Fillies could not make it two from two as they went down to Cuscatlan 3 - 0. The result was in important for Cuscatlan to remain in second place. The other match Frankston Pines was too good for Rosebud A as they won 2 - 1 at home.

## ► Division 2

After Parkmore's loss last weekend they had to make sure that they did not drop any more points to the hard charging Cranbourne Gold.

Parkmore was able to secure three points with a 3 - 1 win over Mornington Glory. This result keeps them on top by five points over Cranbourne Comets, who by the way slaughtered Baxter Falcons 8 - 1.

Chelsea Old Boys also stay within three points of second place with a 4 - 2 away win over Boronia Barons.

And finally AC Milanly had to come from a goal behind to over come Montrose with only minutes to play to win 2 - 1.

## ► Division 3

With the championship already in their hands, Phillip Island has slowed down the pace some what in terms of wins but in regards to goals, well 8 of them was scored in their match against Montrose that ended in a 4 - 4 draw.

The race for second place will go down to the final round next weekend as Rosebud Dinosaurs now lead the way by just one point over Seaford Untied and two over Montrose. Rosebud got to second place with a huge 5 - 1 win over then second placed Seaford United. And finally in a big upset Croydon Old Boys defeated Frankston Pines 6 - 1!

Words and Photos by Steven Gray

## Club Focus

### Baxter Soccer Club

Baxter Soccer Club strength lies within the junior set up. It was only in 2005 that Baxter rejoined the Bayside Football Association in a senior level participation. Whilst it was not the first time that Baxter has fielded a senior team, it certainly has been a while since their last effort.

It did take some time before Baxter acclimatized to the Division 1 as early efforts where meet with some heavy defeats. But as the season progressed so did Baxter with the club become a pest to the leading bunch. By the end of the season they where making life hard for the top teams like Peninsula, Langwarrin and Challenge Cup winners Brighton.

Is Baxter up to the challenge of pushing towards a position in the Premier League for 2007?

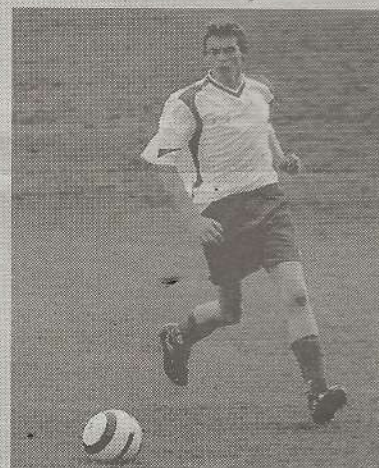
The only known senior title Baxter has won was the 1997 Bayside Division 1 (known as Division 2 at the time)

### Cranbourne Comets

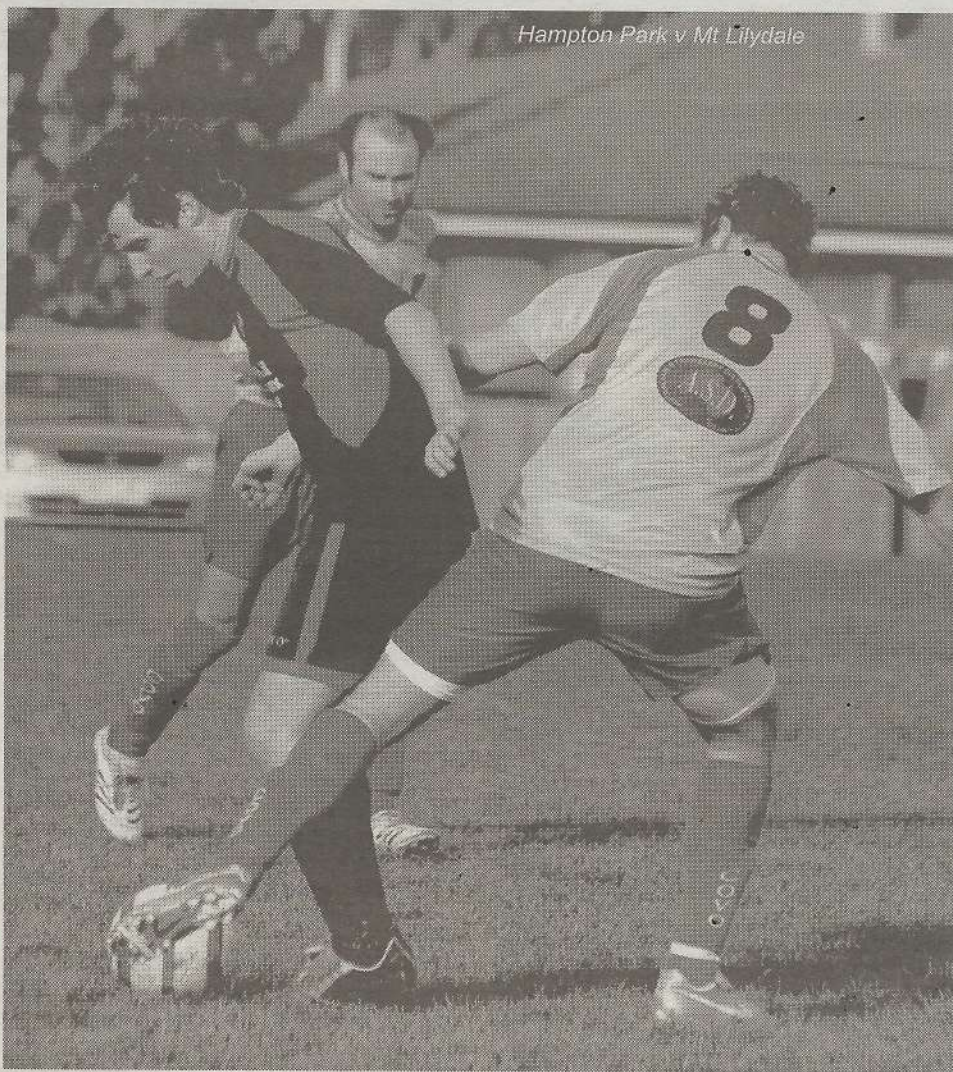
Cranbourne Comets are unusual in that they are strong in both the men's divisions. With three Women's Premier League titles in the clubs trophy cabinet it could have been five, if not for nail biting losses in the Grand Finals to Box Hill Inter in 2004 & 2005.

The men's senior teams has amazingly collected only one league trophy in the FFV and that was in 1997 when they won the State League 3. In 2005 they almost won the State League 2 South East title but for a slump in form gave the Springvale White Eagles the title late into the season.

For the Bayside League, the 2006 season makes the return of the Comets to the league. They have won one title and that was back in 1982 by winning the second division, now known as the division 1.



Baxter player in action



Hampton Park v Mt Lilydale

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# KRNCEVIC'S KRUNCHLINES

Greetings football fans and welcome to another dose of Krncevic's Krunchlines.

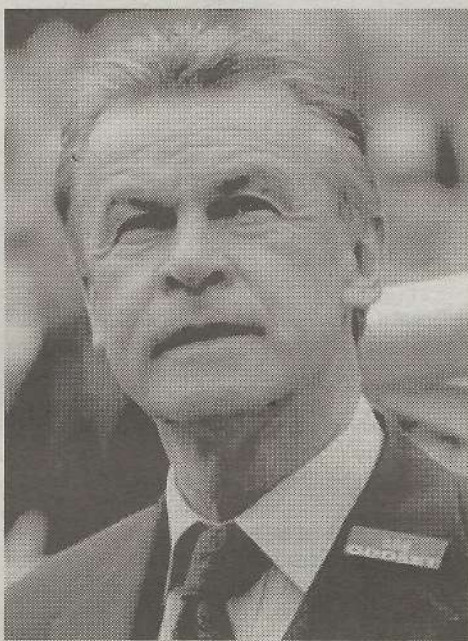
It has been brought to my attention that a particular A-league club coach has informed certain members of his squad that they will not be considered as part of his plans for the soon to commence national competition.

The players are still part of the roster, but have been told they shouldn't get their hopes up of being called upon in the foreseeable future. All this, before a proper ball has even been kicked!! How ridiculous and short sighted. What sort of man management skills is this? How can a player expect to motivate themselves when they've basically been told they're on the outer and not wanted, just as the season proper is about to start?

In my opinion, this kind of approach is short-sighted and lacks of serious coaching experience. How can you expect a player to respond and participate wholeheartedly in any future sessions or feel committed to the club, when it appears that the only opportunity to break in to the first eleven will possibly only come about due to an injury crisis. Players play their best football when they feel wanted and are happy in their respective environments. I just don't understand why one bothers with a twenty man roster, if one doesn't utilise the facility for the entire season. It seems such a pity to waste the allocated squad numbers, whilst not using it to a full advantage. Why such decisions could be entertained so early in the piece is beyond me. A coach should have an open mind, willing to listen to ideas and have the nous to keep their options open. By eliminating potential selection combinations and putting certain players off-side is not the way to go about achieving the best possible results.

## Are you Bleeping serious?

I read with interest the other day that the Melbourne Victory's Brazilian recruit Fred broke the



club's Beep test record. A beep test normally involves running continuously between two lines, 20m apart, to record the best time. From my experience, hardly anyone in Europe bothers with Beep testing. You're either quick, or you're not quick. I had a lengthy discussion with former Bayern Munich chief Otto Hitzfeld a couple of years ago about some of the fitness methods we use here in Australia. I remember him chuckling about the reliability and validity of the Beep test and the Cooper test. I'd be interested to hear the opinions of other coaches. What is your opinion on timing shuttle runs and running around in circles for 12 minutes? Do you think these tests have any advantages or disadvantages? Drop me a line, I'd be interested to hear your thoughts.

## Eagles On a High

Well done to Richmond Eagles for their impressive mid-season turnaround. Entrenched on the bottom of the Vodafone Cup standings at the half-way mark of the season, the boys were starting at a long slog to avoid an immediate return to First Division football. However, an astute coaching change which saw Phil Stubbins take over from Dean Hennessey, was the catalyst needed for the club to collect a staggering 20 points out of a possible 27 and lose only once in nine games. Without taking anything away from Phil, Dean must also be commended for putting the grounding and structure in place with a young, talented squad that was adjusting to promotion and slowly become a competitive Vodafone cup outfit. Unfortunately, from a coach's point of view, football is a results game and time can become a priceless commodity. We have seen it happen many times in the world of football. Never the less, well done to the Kevin Bartlett outfit for becoming one of the success stories of 2006.

## Sarkies

Well done to the Victory's Kristian Sarkies for his selection to the Socceroos squad for the upcoming AFC match against Kuwait. I hope he can step up and blossom this year. He is a talented player who is quite capable, but like many youngsters he still needs to remain focussed and disciplined in order to grow as a player. There's no doubt in my mind he has a bright future in front of him and can really go all the way. I wouldn't be surprised if he was snapped up by the end of the season and is another exciting young prospect that tries his luck overseas.

Until next time,

Eddie

**Victorian soccer legend Eddie Krncevic represented Australia 35 times and scored 17 goals.**

**He played professionally in Europe for Dinamo Zagreb (Croatia), MSV Duisberg (Germany), Mulhouse (France) and Anderlecht, FC Liege, Aalst and Charleroi in Belgium.**

**Eddie writes for Goal! Weekly every fortnight.**



Above: Exciting youngster Kristian Sarkies was selected for the Senior Australian squad.  
Above Left: German football supremo Otto Hitzfeld

## YOUNG ROOS TOUR SOUTH AMERICA

The Qantas Young Socceroos (Australia u-20) were defeated 2-1 overnight by Chilean club Colo Colo (u-20) in the opening match of their South American tour in Santiago.

The Australians who only arrived 24 hours prior to the match, led 1-0 at half time through a goal from AIS striker Bruce Djite after 35 minutes.

Colo Colo equalised ten minutes after the interval before securing the winner against a tiring Australian side eight minutes from full time.

The Qantas Young Socceroos will next take the field against Universidad de Chile on Sunday (Monday Australian time). The tour will conclude with international matches against firstly Argentina (9 Aug), then two internationals against Chile (12 and 14 Aug). Australia are preparing for the AFC U-20 Championship which will take place in India during October and November. The top four teams at the 16-nation tournament will qualify for the 2007 FIFA U-20 World Cup in Canada.

**Young Socceroos 1 (Bruce Djite 35')**  
**Colo Colo U-20 2 (55', 82')**

Starting line-up: Mitchell Langerak (gk), Peter Eleftherakis, Matthew Spiranovic, Stephen O'Dor, Jimmy Downey (Oliver Bozanic 70'), Shaun Ontong (c), Nathan Burns, Evan Berger (Tarek Elrich 70'), Chris Grossman, Bruce Djite (Robbie Kruse 75'), Cameron Watson (Troy Hearfield 60')

Subs not used: Aleks Vrteski (gk), Ben Vidaic, Brad Porter, Ryan McGowan, Sebastian Ryall  
The Australian touring squad is:

Aleks Vrteski (Perth Glory), Steven O'Dor, Peter Eleftherakis, Matthew Spiranovic, Shaun Ontong (all AIS), Ben Vidaic (Sydney United), James Downey (AIS), Troy Hearfield (Newcastle Jets), Bruce Djite (AIS), Nathan Burns (Adelaide United), Evan Berger, Mitchell Langerak, Chris Grossman, Robbie Kruse,

Cameron Watson (all AIS), Tarek Elrich (Newcastle Jets), Brad Porter, Oliver Bozanic (both Central Coast Mariners), Ryan McGowan (SASI - South Australian Sports Institute), Sebastian Ryall (NSWIS - New South Wales Institute of Sport)

## The Socceroo tour matches are:

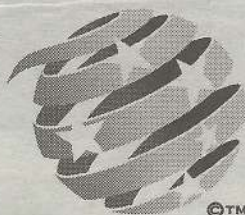
**v Colo Colo (u-20),**  
Monumental Stadium, Santiago  
Thursday Aug 3, 3pm  
(5am Friday EST) 1-2 loss (Djite 35')

**v Universidad de Chile (u-20),**  
Universidad de Chile Sports  
Complex, Santiago  
Sunday Aug 6, 3pm (5am Monday EST)

**v Argentina (u-20),**  
Venue TBC, Buenos Aires  
Wednesday Aug 9, 6pm  
(5am Thursday EST)

**v Chile (u-20), Venue TBC**  
Saturday Aug 12, Time TBC

**v Chile (u-20),**  
Chilean FA Complex, Santiago  
Monday Aug 14, 2pm (4am Tuesday EST)



## FOOTBALL FEDERATION AUSTRALIA

ing for a place in the finals, when it plays its second qualifying match against Kuwait on August 16 in Sydney. The withdrawal of Lebanon from the qualifying group, means Australia will know of its qualification when it plays its second home game against Bahrain in October, also in Sydney.

The AFC Asian Cup 2007 will be held in the four countries during July with the AFC Competitions Committee making their decision based on certain criteria required in determining which games each country would receive and certain requests of the hosting countries.

The criteria included commitment of the national associations and their respective governments with regard to the competition requirements. This includes infrastructure, the addressing of security measures, the commitment to promote the event, and the protection of commercial rights.

The opening game in Bangkok will be held on July 7, 2007, with the final in Jakarta, scheduled for July 29, 2007.

AFC President, Mohamed bin Hammam, commented today, "This is a great milestone in the planning stages of this festival of football across the Asian region. Our team here at AFC are fully committed to delivering what we hope will be AFC's most successful competition to date. But it is only with the host associations' dedication and commitment 24 hours a day, from to-

The Asian Football Confederation has confirmed that Jakarta in Indonesia will host the final of the AFC Asian Cup 2007. Thailand capital Bangkok will host the opening game, while Hanoi (Vietnam) and Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia) will host the semi finals.

Australia will be vying for a place in the finals, when it plays its second qualifying match against Kuwait on August 16 in Sydney. The withdrawal of Lebanon from the qualifying group, means Australia will know of its qualification when it plays its second home game against Bahrain in October, also in Sydney.

day, that this will be achieved."

He continued, "Our decision reflects the strengths and the wishes of the respective national associations. I am delighted that Thailand offered to host the Opening Ceremony, and also look forward to three very professionally staged Matches with the two Semi-finals and the Final in the other three Venues. We are putting great trust into these national associations...I am sure they will deliver".

## Meanwhile...

The AFC confirmed through their Competitions Committee that they have accepted Lebanon's request to withdraw from the qualifiers for the 2007 AFC Asian Cup.

Australia's qualifying group which included Lebanon along with Bahrain and Kuwait will now be a pool of three nations with Kuwait's 1-1 draw with Lebanon declared null and void.

The Qantas Socceroos were scheduled to play Lebanon at Adelaide Oval on 31 August and again in Beirut on 15 November.

"We accept the decision of the AFC Competitions Committee and our sympathy and best wishes go to the Lebanon FA. We hope that they can restore normal working operations as soon as possible," said Mr John O'Neill.

"We're very disappointed for the sporting fans of South Australia who have given great support to Adelaide United and the recent AFC Asian's Women's Championships. I'd like to also thank the South Australian Government and SACA for their enthusiasm and support in bringing the Qantas Socceroos to Adelaide."

"The FFA will continue to work with Events SA to create an opportunity for the Qantas Socceroos to play in Adelaide as soon as possible."

Courtesy of FFA



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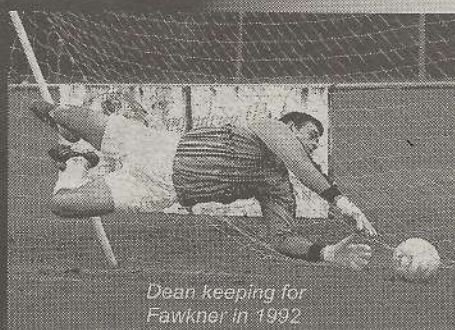
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# FOOTBALL FOCUS... with Dean Anastasiadis



Dean keeping for Fawkner in 1992

**Club:** South Melbourne

**Position:** Goalkeeper

**Age:** 36

**Height:** 6'2"

**Weight:** 92kg

**Nickname:** Deano

**Previous clubs:** Yarraville Glory, Port Melbourne, Fawkner/Whittlesea, Carlton United (NSL), Collingwood warriors (NSL), Wollongong Wolves (NSL).

**Outfield player you most enjoy watching in the VPL?** Fernando De Morares.

**In the world?** Buffon. Brilliant.

**Hardest striker and team to keep against?** Kingston's Michael Curcija loves playing against me and Oakleigh this year have many boys who are capable of scoring.

**Occupation?** Manage a couple of servo's (family business)

**Craziest team mate of all time?** George Souris from Wollongong was a bit of a nutter. Always making the boys laugh with his shenanigans.

**Most influential coach of all time?** Many coaches had some form of influence, Ron Corry from Wollongong, and current goalkeeping coach John Sideris mostly though.

**Most memorable match as a player?** It would have to be the Grand Final win with Wollongong vs South Melbourne in 2000/01. We won 2-1 and my brother John actually scored against me that day.

**As a fan?** Two games which are hard to split. The Greece win in the Euro's and that fateful night in Sydney when Australia beat Uruguay

**Where were you when Australia drew 2-2 with Iran?** At the game

**And when Australia qualified for the World Cup against Uruguay?** At the game.

**Did you watch Australia's World Cup campaign in Germany?** I watched all the Aussie games.

**Representative honours?** Played one game for Australia against New Caledonia in 2002 (Oldest ever debut for Australia 32 y.o.) and Victorian State team.

**Have you ever scored a goal?**

I once scored from a kick out, apart from that I don't remember too many others

**Worst injury:** Snapped a bone in my foot two weeks before the start of the 2003-04 season which kept me out the whole season.

**Funniest moment in football?** The infamous Ange Goutzoulis incident with Les Scheinflug

**Record number of juggles in single attempt?**

Are you serious!! I'm a keeper

**Steak, chicken parma or seafood?** Steak.

**Chips, veggies or salad?** Definitely chips

**Pizza, souvlaki or cevape?** Love a good souvlaki which is hard to find, but I definitely eat a lot more pizzas than anything else

**Favourite drink, non alcoholic and alcoholic?** Coke zero as the n/a and Drambuie

**Favourite nightspot?** Once upon a time ago the Prince of Wales was a good spot.

**Favourite holiday destination?** Greek Islands, Of course!

**Kitchen whiz or home handyman?** Where's the kitchen? Definitely the latter

**What's in the CD player right now?** My daughters Hi Five CD

**Dream date?** Any date these days with my wife is always a pleasure, and Eva Mendes can come along too!

**First team-mate you'd invite to a party, and why?** Nick Curtis. He laughs at my jokes all the time...even the bad ones.

**On the end of season trip, the last player to shout drinks will be...** Haven't been away with the current group but Fernando has deep pockets

**Match day superstitions or rituals?** As long as I get a good sleep in I'm pretty flexible

**Typical matchday meal?** A home made pasta is a must!

**Favorite sporting team when growing up?** Richmond



**What are your strengths?** Never liked answering these next two questions..

**What are your weaknesses?** See above

**Ten pin bowling or skydiving?** Sky diving.. love the adrenalin

**Toughest opponent?** Myself

**Select a player that you play most like?** I always loved watching Schmittel play and modelled my game on him.

**Which team do you select when playing soccer on a computer game?** Nationally it's Australia, club level it's Arsenal.

**What is the last soccer shirt you bought?** Ah..... haven't really bought one

**Funniest rumour you have heard about yourself?** Plenty of rumours over the years but the cocaine addict one was the funniest.

**Childhood soccer idol?** I always looked up to my brother

**Favorite former Soccerroo?** Paul Trimboli

**Favourite Current Soccerroo?** Bresciano and Grella

**What song or movie to do you get inspiration from?** Greek (pontian) music inspires me on match day.

**Do you watch Footballers Wives?** No... but I see my wife all the time.

**Best away ground you like to visit?** Perth Oval

**If I didn't play football I'd play...** AFL

**What fictional character would you most like to be; why?** John Rambo in First Blood. Loved the movie and still do.

**Hollywood is making a movie about your career. Who would you select to play you in a movie?** That's a tough one, maybe Vin Diesel

*Thanks Dean and good luck!*



Dean keeping for South Melbourne against Parramatta Eagles in 1995. Other player is Gerry Gomez

the

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